

# Yukon Salmon Sub-Committee Meeting Minute Summary- Whitehorse

## Day 1 -October 29, 2019

**PRESENT:** James MacDonald (Chair) (CYFN Nominee), Roger Alfred (CYFN Nominee), Michelle Dawson-Beattie (YFWMB Appointee), Al von Finster (Vice Chair) (VGG Nominee), Tim Gerberding (Federal Nominee), Harvey Jessup (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice – Chair) (Federal Nominee), Jason Jim (CAFN Nominee), Ed Long (CAFN Nominee), Stanley Njootli Sr. (VGG Nominee), Carl Sidney (YFWMB Appointee)

**GUESTS:** Karlie Knight (CTFN, Natural Resources Coordinator)

**SUPPORT:** Elizabeth MacDonald (Executive Director), Sharon Kerr (Minute Taker, CAH Services)

## Call to Order and Agenda Review/Approval

**Motion – 1** – YSSC accept the October 29-31, 2019 agenda as amended.

**Moved by:** Carl Sidney

**Seconded by:** Harvey Jessup

**Passed by:** Consensus

## Review and Approval of Previous Minutes

**Motion – 2** — That the YSSC accept the July 24, 2019 minutes with changes.

**Moved by:** Al Von Finster

**Seconded by:** Harvey Jessup

**Passed by:** Consensus

## Administrative and Financial Review

The 2019-20 budget expenditures is at 41 percent. The committee is entering the busy meeting season and she expects to spend more than in the last six months.

## Correspondence & News

James and Elizabeth reviewed the correspondence and news listed in the agenda attachments. The letters are available upon request (via email) and Elizabeth will maintain a reading file to be circulated at meetings.

## Member Updates

Members reviewed updates provided in the agenda attachment.

## YSSC Report Card-Action Items from previous meetings

This was discussed during the approval of the minutes.

## Financial Working Group Update

James provided an overview and update. Harvey provided information on timelines. The financial working group will meet at the end of the day to continue drafting the letter to DFO.

The new Contribution Agreements funding levels are below:

2020 – 2021 - \$283,100

2021 – 2022 – \$291,300

2022 – 2023 - \$300,500

2023 – 2024 - \$308,700

2024 – 2025 - \$317,900

- YSSC is looking for an increase in funding to compensate for the increased costs of accepting the Implementation Review recommendations to hire and staff and move out of the DFO office. The increase is about \$80, 000 to \$150,000 in 2018 dollars. That is quite substantial.

## Strategic Plan (added agenda item)

James provided an overview of the strategic planning process to date. Elizabeth reviewed the current strategic plan and draft brochure asking for feedback.

- The strategic plan can be a working document and be changed as the time progresses. It can be reviewed annually to ensure we are meeting those needs and we can shift when needed.
- Add Activity to achieve spawning escapement goals and use/harvest
- Have Carl attended the JTC to move towards having a TK person involved

## Workshop Discussion (added agenda item)

Members agreed to divide into two groups with Dennis and Elizabeth leading them. A recap of the discussions will be provided.

The Sub-Committee will have a conversation with Steve Smith who is the co-chair of the JTC and see what arrangement or orientation he can issue on behalf to the JTC to involve First Nation technical and/or TK level.

## End of Day

## Day 2-October 30, 2019

**PRESENT:** James MacDonald (Chair) (CYFN Nominee), Roger Alfred (CYFN Nominee), Michelle Dawson-Beattie (YFWMB Appointee), Al von Finster (Vice Chair) (VGG Nominee), Tim Gerberding (Federal Nominee), Harvey Jessup (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice – Chair) (Federal Nominee), Jason Jim (CAFN Nominee), Ed Long (CAFN Nominee), Stanley Njootli Sr. (VGG Nominee), Carl Sidney (YFWMB Appointee)

**GUESTS:** DFO: Jesse Trerice, Steve Gotch, Steve Smith, Vesta Mather, Cyril Sweetville, Michael Folkes, YRP: Dennis Zimmermann YFN: Gillian Rourke (TTC), Darren Taylor (TH), Natasha Ayoub (TH), Monica Krieger (CAFN), Melina Hougen (CAFN), Geraldine Pope (KFN), Karlie Knight (CTFN), Coralee Johns (CTFN), Ellie Marcotte (SFN), Kevin McGinty (SFN), Nick de Graff (KDFN), RRCs: Sheila Garvice (CRRC), Vera Charlie (CRRC), Allen Skookum (CRRC), Jason Van Fleet (NYRRC), Alex Frost, Larry Joe (ARRC), Lance Brown (ARRC), David Lorde (NYRRC), Brenda Frost (NYRRC), Sandy Johnson (DKRRC), Jerry Kruse (SRRC), Lance Brown (NYRRC), David Lorde (NYRRC), Don Toews (CTRRC), Joseph O'Brien (CRRC), Travis Frost (NYRRC), Bill Shanks (SRRC), Alex Joe (SRRC), Stanley Njootli Jr (NYRRC), Jerry Alfred (SRRC), Betsy Jackson (LRRC), NGO: Gord Zealand (YFGA), Aline Halliday (YFGA)

**SUPPORT:** Elizabeth MacDonald (Executive Director), Sharon Kerr (Minute Taker, CAH Services)

## Opening Prayer-Carl Sidney

### Welcome and Introductions

James MacDonald welcomed everyone and introduced the YSSC members and invited the guests to introduce themselves.

### Yukon River Salmon Agreement

Steve Gotch provided a presentation on things we can change and things we can't change. There was a lot of discussion around incorporating TK into the JTC.

### Management and Allocation Policies

#### Yukon River Chinook Matrix

Steve Smith provided a presentation on the current layout, the matrix in detail and a simplified future layout.

## DFO Allocation Policy for Pacific Salmon

Steve Gotch provided a presentation on the stepwise allocation for Chinook and Coho. And details of the shared allocation for chum salmon. This is based off the BC Allocation Policy from 1999. DFO is looking to update the allocation policy to be specific to the Yukon.

## Yukon and Porcupine River Salmon Update

Jesse Trerice and Vesta Mather provided an update on Chinook stock assessment and fishery management. They included unknown factor for pre-spawn mortality on both sides of the border. There was discussion around the different management targets used by Canada and the US (mid point to upper end of the range for Canada and the range for the US).

## Workshop

Elizabeth provided 3 brief summary presentations on Yukon River Chinook Management in 2019, Yukon River Chum Management in 2019, and Yukon River Escapement Considerations. After each presentation, the group broke apart with Dennis Zimmermann and Elizabeth leading 2 discussions. The groups would rejoin and summarize the points brought forward before moving onto the next topic. Results are summarized in a 'What We Heard Document' distributed to participants and invitees.

## End of Day

## Day 3- October 31, 2019

**PRESENT:** James MacDonald (Chair) (CYFN Nominee), Roger Alfred (CYFN Nominee), Michelle Dawson-Beattie (YFWMB Nominee), Al von Finster (Vice Chair) (VGG Nominee), Tim Gerberding (Federal Nominee), Harvey Jessup (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice – Chair) (Federal Nominee), Jason Jim (CAFN Nominee), Ed Long (CAFN Nominee), Stanley Njootli Sr. (VGG Nominee), Carl Sidney (YFWMB Appointee)

**GUESTS:** DFO: Jesse Trerice, Steve Gotch, Steve Smith, Vesta Mather, Tola Cooper, YFN: Darren Taylor (TH), Natasha Ayoub (TH), Monica Krieger (CAFN), Melina Hougen (CAFN), Geraldine Pope (KFN), Ellie Marcotte (SFN), Nick de Graff (KDFN), RRCs: Sheila Garvice (CRRC), Vera Charlie (CRRC), Allen Skookum (CRRC), Jason Van Fleet (NYRRC), Larry Joe (ARRC), Brenda Frost (NYRRC), Sandy Johnson (DKRRC), Jerry Kruse (SRRC), David Lorde (NYRRC), Don Toews (CTRRC), Joseph O'Brien (CRRC), Jerry Alfred (SRRC), Betsy Jackson (LRRRC), NGO: Aline Halliday (YFGA)

**SUPPORT:** Elizabeth MacDonald (Executive Director), Sharon Kerr (Minute Taker, CAH Services)

### Fisheries Act Update-Coming into Force

Tola Cooper presented on the Fisheries Act update and the key changes now that it is in force, Yukon watershed unit and continued engagement on development of regulations. TK now must be considered in habitat assessment. The Indigenous Habitat Participation Program provides funds for FNs to participate in regulatory review process.

### Yukon and Porcupine River Salmon Update (Continued from Oct 30, 2019)

Jesse and Vesta provided the stock assessment for chum and Coho and fishery management for the mainstem and Porcupine drainage.

### Alsek Salmon Update

Bill Waugh provided a post-season update on the Alsek River salmon, including escapement goals and US management actions for early run Sockeye.

### Regulation and Policy Changes

Steve Smith provided an update on the Public Angling Strategy including the working group, and ensuring managers have the proper tools to have a public angling fishery. DFO will provide YSSC a proposal by the end of March. Concern was expressed that this is not a priority for FNs but this could address the issue of non-retention (catch and release).

### In-Camera session (YSSC Members and staff only)

YSSC reviewed the meeting and developed key points to address at the Yukon River Panel. Minutes were not taken.

### **End of Meeting**