

**YUKON SALMON SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING
JULY 21, 22, 2021 MINUTES
VIRTUAL MEETING**

DAY 1: Wednesday, July 21, 2021

PRESENT ONLINE James MacDonald –Chair (CYFN Nominee), Carl Sidney Vice Chair (YFWMB Appointee), Al von Finster – YSSC Member (VGG Nominee), Ron Chambers – YSSC Member (CAFN Nominee), Tim Gerberding – YSSC Member (Government of Canada Nominee), Dennis Zimmermann – YSSC Member (Government of Canada Nominee), Michelle Dawson-Beattie – YSSC Member (YFWMB Appointee), Roger Alfred – YSSC Member (CYFN Nominee), Jason Jim – Second Vice Chair (CAFN Nominee),

GUESTS ONLINE Sebastian Jones (YCS), Bill Waugh (DFO), Cassandra Wheeler (ARRC), Cheyenne Bradley (KDFN), Brandy Mayes (KDFN), Jesse Trerice (DFO), Don Toews (SFN), Errol Ekholm,

SUPPORT Elizabeth MacDonald (Executive Director)

**MINUTE
TAKER** Sharon Kerr (CAH Services)

OPENING PRAYER

Ron Chambers requested a moment of silence for Paul Birkel, former Chief of Champagne and Aishihik First Nations, instead of an opening prayer.

CALL TO ORDER AND AGENDA REVIEW/APPROVAL

James MacDonald reviewed the agenda and asked for additions, changes or amendments.

No additional agenda items.

Motion 1 – YSSC accept the July 21, 22, 2021 agenda as presented.

Moved by: Dennis Zimmermann

Seconded by: Al von Finster

Passed by: Consensus

ROUNDTABLE INTRODUCTIONS & OPENING COMMENTS

The YSSC members introduced themselves and provided opening comments for the record.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES & SUMMARY MINUTES

No comments or discussion.

Motion 2 – YSSC Accept May 26, 27, 2021 minutes.

Moved by: Carl Sidney

Seconded by: Ron Chambers

Passed by: Consensus

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL UPDATE

Current Budget Status (2021-2022) & Policy Update

Elizabeth MacDonald reviewed the status of the current budget and the planned activities. A copy of the budget was provided in the meeting kit and electronically.

Policy Update Harassment and Discrimination Policy

James MacDonald presented the Harassment and Discrimination Policy that was available in the meeting kit. James asked the members to review and to have their comments ready for the post season meeting.

Comments/Discussion:

- Tim Gerberding asked if this policy was modeled after a government policy.
- James MacDonald said he used the model from CAFN Governance with the needed modifications.
- Al von Finster asked about the process to adopt this policy and if it needed to go through the YFWMB. Is the YFWMB making a similar policy?
- James MacDonald said that he is doing this as part of the YSSC on their own initiative as they can make their own rules in accordance with its own procedure and decision making but YFWMB will be adopting it as well.

PROJECTS (ED)

Virtual Ed Ex

Elizabeth MacDonald provided an update on the progress of the Ed Exchange. This has been difficult exchange. There will be a delay in Alaska as they have not headed out to fish camps because there is no fishing. The Alaskans are supposed to be wrapping up their video and are going to share it with the Canadians. There will be an update from the Pelly Crossing participant

who is out at the fish camps getting video. Elizabeth will be checking in with the Whitehorse participant to see if she is in need of assistance.

Chum Angling Project partnering with YFGA

Elizabeth MacDonald provided an update on the Chum Angling project. This year looks to be similar with what happened last year with the low return of Chum. Elizabeth will wait a bit more to see if there will be a fishery. If not, we will have to cancel the projects and reapply once chum numbers have recovered.

Yukon River Salmon Summit

Elizabeth MacDonald provided an update of the Yukon River Salmon Summit. Sebastian Jones has completed a first draft of the proposal and they are in the process of circulating it among a few people for editing. They will be sharing it with the Alaskans once they get the feedback and finalize a few of the details. The proposal will hopefully be funded through R&E, and possibly other partnerships, to host a summit in the fall of 2022.

YRDFA Calls

Elizabeth MacDonald reviewed the YRDFA calls. We support the call and want people to join. With the closure on the Alaska side, some very interesting people join when they can't fish. Hopefully, they're hearing information from the managers that there's just not enough fish and hopefully we'll continue to see more people join on those calls, even when their fisheries aren't restricted, so that there's greater understanding.

The format of the call has changed. The YSSC provides an update on their activities and role along with YRITFC at the start of the call then Managers provide the update on the salmon. Communities give their regular community report and can ask questions at the same time. Given the current situation, it's a good layout.

UPDATE FROM THE COMMUNITIES ON HOW THE IN-SEASON FISHING IS PROGRESSING

James MacDonald added a general discussion on communities.

Brandy Mayes said they are working with Ta'an and they are sending out a message encouraging people not to fish in the upper river because of the low return.

Ron Chambers said that, as a Board, their job is to advise and pass on information to the governments that they have agreements with. They are not the real policymakers. The Government of Canada has that responsibility overall. Somehow, the Board takes some of the flack that should be directed to the Government of Canada. He is concerned that the Board becomes a focal point when they don't have the power to make any policy changes. The Board needs ensure they don't end up carrying that weight when there is an agency that has the

responsibility to sit down and negotiate government to government with suggestions and ideas from the Board.

Tim Gerberding said there was this recent announcement by the Minister for a huge closure of commercial fisheries all along the west coast, including the Yukon River fisheries, commercial fisheries in Yukon, and the chum fishery. There is an issue with DFO with respect to how these decisions are made and communicated. According to the UFA, YSSC is the main instrument of salmon management in Yukon. When decisions are made of that magnitude and impact, whenever possible, YSSC should be engaging in a dialogue with DFO. YSSC shouldn't find out about these decisions after the fact; they should be part of the decision-making process in non-emergency situations. The closure of the chum fishery was made a couple weeks ago and we're still six weeks away from the fishery here. There's ample time for dialogue with the YSSC. We need to play a more fundamental role in decision making, or at least, be given the opportunity to make recommendations that feed into decision making. We are not being respected as the main instrument, for salmon management in Yukon. This is a problem.

Carl Sidney said Teslin is dealing with high water issues. Water levels have come down now. They have an agreement to purchase fish once again this year from the Taku River which will happen in a couple weeks.

Al von Finster said that from the meeting with DFO, this year's salmon run is dependent on the cessation of the fishery downstream from Pilot Station. Had that not happened, the run would have been quite a bit smaller. If they are meeting with DFO, they can complement them on their interactions with ADFG, and others, to reduce the catch downstream and allow the fish to come into the Yukon.

Dennis Zimmermann said that from his observations over the last few teleconferences this is the first year that the Alaskans are really seeing the same thing that we've been seeing for the past decade. They had a lot of discussion around harvesting other fish. There was talk of a culture camp which would be an opportunity to share awareness up and down the river. The agencies should be commended because their messaging is not wishy washy — it's very clearly about biological species survival.

ACTION ITEM 1 – Express our gratitude to ADFG for their salmon management, specifically the fishery closures and enforcement this season.

CORRESPONDENCE & NEWS

James MacDonald and Elizabeth MacDonald reviewed the latest correspondence and news items.

Minister

- Yukon River Annual Recommendations – Discussion will be in camera at the conclusion of the morning session.
- Invite to visit the Yukon
- Working on – Follow Up to the Evaluation

FN Recommendations

- 13 Recommendations to Yukon First Nation Governments & What we Heard Document

FFHPP

- Whitehorse Hydro Plant Relicensing

Press Release & Poster

- Ask fishers to plan on no harvest

News

- Interview KYUK – Announcement of funding from DFO (James)
- Press Release Interviews CBC & YN (Carl)

Meeting updates

Elizabeth Macdonald reviewed and provided and updates for the following meetings.

- YRDFA Calls
Calls are ongoing on Tuesdays at 2:00 pm if anyone wants to join.
- Angling Working Group (Unable to attend)
Elizabeth was not able to attend the meeting due to a last minute location change due to COVID. The next meeting will be held at Fish Lake. The group discussed changing the name of the working group to be more inclusive of all types of fishing.
- Executive
Administrative meetings have been held to keep the office running, to pay the bills, etc.
- Summer Students (YCS, YFGA)
Quite a number of summer students were looking at projects or activities around salmon. Elizabeth has been helping them a little bit.
- DFO/FN/YSSC calls
By-weekly calls are being held.
- McIntyre Creek Restoration with Gord Zealand & Steve
They are working on some short videos to highlight different aspects of the creek. There are some restoration sites, salmon in freshwater, water, fish, wildlife, and recreation. The access is easy. They are hoping to string together a series.

PSSI

- Initial introduction
- YSSC brainstorming on gaps
- Commercial fishery closure and retirement of licences.

Working Group updates

Elizabeth Macdonald reviewed and provided and updates for the following meetings.

Financial Working Group

- Tim drafted a recommendation to the Minister regarding the evaluation recommendations and the funding decrease.

Report Card update

Elizabeth MacDonald reviewed the Report Card and removed and updated Action Items.

Action items added:

ACTION ITEM 2 – In the postseason meeting have a workshop to look at what we need to do to provide compensation and funding for each First Nations for projects to bring salmon back in the future.

ACTION ITEM 3 – Host a postseason meeting strategy session around the fish ladder and the dam.

YSSC Meeting Action Items 2020-21

Meeting	Action Item	Description	Completed
May 2021	1	Create a Communication Working Group (AI, Dennis, James, Elizabeth)	
May 2021	4	Elizabeth and Dennis talk with Peter about his video project to see if it would be worth proposing to the YRP Communication Subcommittee.	
May 2021	6	Nominate Ron Chambers to TBP as recreational seat.	
Feb 2021	3	Write a letter to YFNs to see if they would support a YRSA renegotiation and ask for their suggestions. After YSSC will reach out to other Yukoners to gauge their support.	
Feb 2021	4	AI will gather information related to the relicensing of the Whitehorse dam in 2025. After, we will reach out to KDFN, C/TFN, and TKC. We will then write to the Minister requesting that the responsible DFO personnel contact YSSC regarding the relicensing.	underway
Feb 2021	5	Dennis and Elizabeth will set up a meeting with AI, KDFN, C/TFN and TKC to discuss the fish ladder passage issues and relicensing of the Whitehorse dam.	
Oct 2020	9	Letter to parties requesting funds to accompany acceptance of recommendations	

Oct 2020	11	Letter to JTC Co-Chairs reminder YRP AI to include TK on both sides of the border (pressure to incorporate TK) before next JTC meeting, CC YFN C&C, CYFN	
May 2019	SP #1	Create and update reference material for Members, public, and stakeholders	Running item
May 2019	SP #2	Develop a communication and engagement strategy. Will involve YFN, Yukoners, governments, RRCs, and Alaskans	
May 2019	SP #3	Create Alsek Drainage Working Group- develop goals, including restoration	created
May 2019	Draft Strat Plan	Write letter to RDG requesting a seat on the TBR Panel	
Completed/Removed			
Oct 2020	15	Tim and AI will develop a submission for Land Use Planning for Dawson, it may be used as a template for future Land Use Planning	Submission done, submission could be used as a template

Working Groups/Special	
Executive James MacDonald Carl Sidney Jason Jim	Financial Working Group James MacDonald Al von Finster Tim Gerberding
Habitat Working Group Al von Finster Tim Gerberding Jason Jim Stanley Njootli Sr.	Alsek Drainage Working Group Jason Jim Ron Chambers Al von Finster Michelle Dawson-Beattie
TK Working Group Roger Alfred Stanley Njootli Sr. Michelle Dawson-Beattie Al von Finster Carl Sidney	Communications Working Group Al von Finster Dennis Zimmermann James MacDonald Elizabeth MacDonald
Yukon River Panel Al von Finster Carl Sidney Stanley Njootli Sr.	YRP Communication Subcommittee Carl Sidney Dennis Zimmermann

Roger Alfred Michelle Dawson-Beattie Tim Gerberding Dennis Zimmermann James MacDonald	
YR Salmon Summit Steering Committee Stanley Njootli Sr. Dennis Zimmermann	YRDFA Members James MacDonald Carl Sidney

IN CAMERA SESSION:

The members went in camera to further discuss the letter from the Minister.

Motion 3 – YSSC to Move in Camera to discuss letter from Minister – July 14, 2021.

Moved by: Tim Gerberding

Seconded by: Michelle Dawson-Beattie

Passed by: Consensus

ACTION ITEM 4 – Tim and James will draft a response to the Minister RE the Minister’s response to YSC’s Yukon River salmon recommendations. Elizabeth, Carl, and Jason will then edit and send out the draft to the entire YSSC.

Motion to end in camera session.

Motion 4 – YSSC to Move out of in Camera discussion.

Moved by: Carl Sidney

Seconded by: Michelle Dawson-Beattie

Passed by: Consensus

ALSEK SALMON PRESEASON FORECAST AND MANAGEMENT (BILL WAUGH)

Bill Waugh presented the presentation *Alsek River 2021 in Season Salmon Assessment and Fishery Management Update* provided in the meeting kit and electronically.

Comments/Discussion:

- Ron Chambers asked if they are monitoring the spawning bed with the high water. There will be disruption of spawning locations and the fry will be displaced.
- Bill Waugh said they have seen this happen before and they have seen the changes. It is worth considering and checking once the water levels drop.

DFO/FIRST NATION/YSSC TELECONFERENCE (NOTE THIS IS A SEPARATE MEETING)

Member signed into a different meeting until 2:30 p.m. No minutes were recorded.

OPPORTUNITY FOR GUESTS TO PROVIDE ADVICE TO YSSC

James MacDonald invited guests to express their thoughts and recommendations.

Elizabeth MacDonald reviewed the information from the DFO/First Nation/YSSC call.

Don Toews discussed the teleconferences and calls. The US biologists have said many times that this is not just about the treaty and meeting Canadian escapement. The closures are also very much needed in the US. They will likely not meet their escapement. The US has done a really good job of closing the fishery, but we need to think long term. The reality is that things are not going to improve in the short term. The decline has been going on for 15 to 20 years. They're not going to get better quickly. Changes in climate are affecting the US, Canada and the world. There is flooding in Europe and China. There's a lot of concern and recognition that something needs to be done about climate change. We keep on doing what we're doing now, which is, monitoring the run. If we're meeting the escapement or if there's a harvestable surplus we have a fishery. When they're not making border escapement, we shut everything down. He discussed looking at the runs as a long-term improvement. Add escapement targets for at least three or four years in a row to make sure there's evidence that stocks are increasing. To offset that, there could be a small ceremonial or cultural harvest.

Brandy Mayes opened the discussion on the funding from PSSI. They want to start doing some engagement sessions now and again in September.

James MacDonald said that this will be discussed on the agenda tomorrow and those questions can be addressed at that time.

DISCUSS IF FURTHER IN-SEASON RECOMMENDATIONS ARE NEEDED FOR YUKON OR ELSEK SALMON

No further discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 P.M.

DAY 2: Thursday, July 22, 2021

PRESENT ONLINE	James MacDonald – Chair (CYFN Nominee), Carl Sidney - Vice Chair (YFWMB Appointee), Al von Finster – YSSC Member (VGG Nominee), Ron Chambers – YSSC Member (CAFN Nominee), Tim Gerberding – YSSC Member (Government of Canada Nominee), Dennis Zimmermann – YSSC Member (Government of Canada Nominee), Michelle Dawson-Beattie – YSSC Member (YFWMB Appointee), Roger Alfred – YSSC Member (CYFN Nominee), Jason Jim – Second Vice Chair (CAFN Nominee), Stan Njootli – YSSC Member (VGG Nominee)
GUESTS ONLINE	Sebastian Jones (YCS), Bill Waugh (DFO), Ed Schultz (CYFN), Ben Schonewille (EDI/TTC), Cassandra Wheeler (ARRC), Cheyenne Bradley (KDFN), Sarah Murdoch (DFO), Kluane Clarke, Jesse Trerice (DFO), Don Toews (SFN), Peter Lunka (DFO), Steve Gotch (DFO), Tola Copper (DFO), Natasha Ayoub (TH), Tim Sellers (DRLUPC), and Nicole Percival (DRLUPC)
SUPPORT	Elizabeth MacDonald (Executive Director)
MINUTE TAKER	Colleen Henry (CAH Services)

CALL TO ORDER, ROUNDTABLE INTRODUCTIONS & COMMENTS

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. James McDonald reviewed the agenda.

Ed Schultz joined the meeting and requested a meeting between YSSC and the Chiefs. The date selected was July 27, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at CYFN in Boardroom 1.

UPDATE OF PACIFIC SALMON STRATEGY INITIATIVE (PSSI) AND DISCUSSION (SARAH MURDOCH, PETER LUNKA)

Peter Lunka and Sarah Murdoch reviewed the *Pacific Salmon Strategy Initiative Federal Response to Pacific Salmon Decline* presentation. A longer version of the presentation was included in meeting kits. Sarah Murdoch said they are keen to hear the YSSC members' thoughts on the four pillars, whether the idea and concept are right, and the best way to work together on the long term plan to rebuild the salmon populations.

DFO wants to schedule a meeting with all Yukon First Nations to discuss PSSI. YSSC members can send suggested dates to Tola Cooper or Peter Lunka. If YSSC would like to organize an

engagement, DFO could cover the cost. Sarah Murdoch suggested putting together an interim proposal to get something started as early as the fall.

The YSSC will have some internal conversations in terms of next steps.

ACTION ITEM 5 — James will put together an interim proposal to support PSSI engagement in the Yukon. The proposal will include 1 to 2 workshop to strategize on compensation and funding gaps in the fall. This will include AAROM, CYFN, Canadian Mountain Network and possibly others.

Comments/Questions:

- We have modern treaties in Yukon that lay out obligations. The three pillars — conservation, harvest transformation, and integration and collaboration are envisioned in Chapter 16 of the UFA. It is great to see resources invested after so many years of decline in Yukon. He discussed the announcement in June from the Minister regarding the 60 percent commercial fisheries closure on the west coast, including the Yukon River fall chum commercial fishery. There was no need to make a pre-emptive announcement as the fishery doesn't start until September. That discussion should have flowed through the YSSC. \$647 million is a huge pot of funding. We want to ensure a fair fraction comes to Yukon. We sometimes feel we're left out of initiatives. It is important to discuss how the resources will be used to address issues in Yukon.
- Sarah Murdoch appreciates the comments. It is early days. They want to set up bilateral conversations with Yukon First Nations to do this in a right way and to get off on the right foot. Where is it appropriate to lean into the post treaty context which is well established in terms of how to work collaboratively on salmon, recognizing the full agendas and meeting schedules.
- Will the YSSC be involved in a regional or local level? We're tied to the final agreements. If there is a regional body to oversee this, the YSSC should have a representative. We can share what we're doing up here. There must be a direct connection to the Yukon and the Yukon has to be dealt with at a local level. To what extent will you fund YSSC's participation in the process? We're working heavily with Alaskans. A stewardship document has been drafted and is very American-centric. We have to be careful not to accept other people's processes without full consideration.
- Sarah Murdoch said the idea of collaboration is an actual pillar of PSSI. They want to approach this in a way that is more viable and more sustainable which includes coming together and designing process. They would be happy to look at a proposal even for the initial phase of taking stock and figuring out a local, Yukon-type process. They would be happy to flow resources to folks so that their participation on expanding out and basically implementing PSSI isn't a drain on the YSSC's existing salmon work.

- Q) Is DFO going to phase out mixed stock marine fisheries in favour of terminal fisheries? A) As a general concept, yes. We're managing for weak stocks. That will inherently mean no mixed-stock fishing in Canadian waters. The idea is to move toward more selected fishing and terminal fishing.
- Q) In BC, there has been egregious habitat destruction, primarily related to forestry, but also agriculture and mining. Will DFO use tools under SARA to take firm action to protect habitat in Canada? A) We can't protect salmon without protecting salmon habitat. That inherently means involving the provincial/territorial level of governments. This is about coming to the table with regulatory tools and mechanisms to address land-based activities that impact negatively on salmon. That will be a key area of focus. There has been a question on to what SARA should be used a key lever. There are also fish stock provisions under the new *Fisheries Act*. We want to connect to rebuilding and recovery planning processes which have regulatory teeth. However, those processes are so slow and there is concern about having extirpated stocks in the meantime. We're hoping to implement PSSI pieces prior to any formal order coming in under SARA. COSEWIC already has 50 different populations they are looking at but moving it through a regulatory process will take years. If we can come together with key partners and set priorities quickly, there is no reason we can't influence other levels of government and bring our own resources and capacity to the table to put these actions into motion quicker.
- Collaboration and engagement is essential. Managing salmon and salmon habitat is an incredibly complex process. It involves Canada, US, and Pacific nations. How does stocking five or six billion salmon by five or six countries in the Pacific Ocean affect productivity? It is an incredibly complex process and it has to be much broader than domestic management. There is no such thing as domestic management. This point has to be made. If we're going to address sustainability on a significant scale. Another issue is climate change. We need to think long-term and comprehensively.
- If we're looking at how we want to rebuild stocks, we need to look at protection from spawning grounds right out to the ocean. Our voice needs to be heard at the international level. How do we get involved and what happens? Regarding bycatch, there doesn't seem to be any penalty. The compromise is how to manage bycatch. There is no legal way to protect stocks. How do we make changes and how do we get involved? We need financial resources to have a voice at the international level. This would involve Council for Yukon First Nations and their obligations and mandate and the obligations of the federal government. We can look at how the pillars will be built, but we need to come up with another plan to present. What is the obligation of DFO to Yukon? We will need preliminary funds to come up with a plan. There's a need to re-

educate Yukoners. How do we manage and protect Yukon stocks on the international scale?

- Sarah Murdoch said that we need to be looking at what is happening to our salmon in the high seas and marine environment. We need to look at what processes and levers are already there and how that plays into the bigger picture. We want to make sure we launch this in a way that respects treaties and obligations. If this falls within the YSSC mandate, how do we support you to be an active player? Is it through a subcommittee, working group, or other means? She is happy to have a further discussion.
- Climate change will have a huge impact. Sarah provided an overview of high temperatures and impacts in BC due to climate change. How can we work to increase adaptation? That is a key point. We need to look at things in a different way.
- First Nations have a cultural alliance with neighbours in Alaska. We've had meetings with people in Yakutat. Yukon communities have relatives in Alaska. The cultural connection can provide a different perspective and cultural connections are deeper and they can become an ally. Culture is a big bond that can be a powerful tool to help affect change. Sarah Murdoch acknowledged culture is important. There are 190 First Nations in Yukon and BC with cultural and historic connections to Pacific salmon. Creating space for alliance would be very important and there may be opportunities for government and scientists to share information. The salmon travel far. We need to remember that.

DISCUSS RESTORATION & YSSC'S POSITION ON INSTREAM INCUBATION AND EGG TRANSFERS

Elizabeth MacDonald reviewed the YSSC Restoration History and issues briefing. There were some concerns about projects and the possibility for harm to chinook or other species. Some First Nations have requested clarity from the YSSC about which restoration projects they will support.

Elizabeth provided an overview of some of the past stock restoration projects. She compiled and reviewed a list of recommendations for YSSC consideration. This is to help direct project proponents to create their R&E proposals this fall and will help provide clarity. This will be a standing agenda item and will be revisited in the fall.

Ben Schonewille attended on behalf of Jillian from TTC. He thanked Elizabeth for the compilation of projects. He provided information on the 2019 projects for Deadman, Morley, and Klondike on hatching success across the projects including comparisons. He will provide the data to Elizabeth. Jillian had previously invited YSSC members to Teslin. It wasn't possible due to COVID. She invited them to attend once again to see the projects. The Deadman project will

occur from August 17 to 21. Anyone who is interested to attend and to see the project underway can reach out to Jillian.

Comments/Questions:

- There are excellent principles in the Yukon River Salmon agreement that should guide us in terms of restoration, habitats, and stewardship. This is a great start. If we can come up with clear and simple guidelines, it would be useful for everybody who is considering a restoration and enhancement project.
- A lot of the past projects had been forgotten. One of the real problems is that anything you do you should learn from. You shouldn't complete a project, walk away from it, and leave it by the wayside. That happened with a lot of the projects that were carried out, particularly with respect to stock restoration. We need to go back to those old projects and find out what we learned from them and provide that to other people at the present. We should continue to do that as an annual event. For example, DFO carried out a project in Mayo and two years later Habitat Stewardship Conservation people did the same project. One of our functions should be a distant coordination role for restoration.

TRANSBOUNDARY PANEL MEMBER (RECREATIONAL FISHERIES) NOMINATION

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans requested the YSSC to nominate someone to fill the tenure seat on the transboundary panel with respect to recreational fishing. There are two week-long meetings per year.

Tim Gerberding nominated Dennis Zimmerman. On Day 1, Dennis Zimmerman confirmed he would accept a nomination if he were nominated. This was verified by both Tim Gerberding and James MacDonald.

Carl Sidney nominated Ron Chambers. Ron Chambers accepted the nomination.

Elizabeth reviewed the nomination/election procedures. James confirmed the voting would proceed by one person, one vote. Elizabeth confirmed quorum. She asked everyone to text or email votes. She phoned others to collect their votes. She will compile the votes.

Motion 5 – That YSSC appoint Ron Chambers to sit on the transboundary panel with respect to the recreational fishery.

Moved by: Carl Sidney

Seconded by: Tim Gerberding

Passed by: Consensus

James congratulated Ron. He and Elizabeth will reach out to Ron shortly.

DAWSON REGION LAND USE DRAFT PLAN

James MacDonald welcomed Tim Sellers and Nicole Percival. James MacDonald provided a brief overview of YSSC and guests.

Tim Sellers provided a brief overview of the Dawson land use planning process. He reviewed the *Draft Land Use Planning Highlights June 2021*. The full document is available for download. They are currently in the public engagement process which will go to November 1. They will take the feedback and provide a summary and overview of themes. They will work on their recommended plan from January through March 2022. They are looking for groups such as the YSSC to review the draft plan. Some of the recommendations involve a role for the YSSC. He encouraged members to look at those recommendations. He reviewed the high-level land designation maps. The Yukon River has been identified as needing subregional planning. In the meantime, it is withdrawn for mineral staking. It will remain in place until a subregional plan is completed or the review of the Dawson Plan appears. Section 4 and Appendix B have recommendations related to best management practices or recommended management practices. They are seeking input from the YSSC on gaps and detail. They will be in Dawson from August 3 to 5 to do a series of workshops on wetlands, special management areas, and there will be a discussion on Klondike Valley. There will also be an online option. Surveys will be coming out on the plan and will run through November 1. There will be fall workshops, open houses, and community meetings. Content will be added to the engagedawson.planyukon.ca website regularly.

Nicole Percival provided an overview of the land stewardship trust fund.

Comments/Questions:

- The Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in traditional territory overlapped with the Selkirk First Nation traditional territory. That areas was removed from the planning region. There are overlap agreements with Vuntut Gwitchin to the north and NND to the east.
- Tim Gerberding commended the commission. YSSC submitted comments, including a concern regarding the lack of good information on habitat, especially related to the salmon rearing and overwinter habitat of Chinook salmon. The plan recommends that a comprehensive, publicly accessible, aquatic habitat inventory be conducted prior to mining and other land use activities in the areas that have not been mined to determine whether salmon habitat is at risk. That was different from the YSSC recommendation which also suggested it be extended to areas that are not currently actively mining. Why

is it limited to areas not yet mined? Nicole will have to review her notes. There was no intention reason for taking it out. It may have been misunderstood on their end or dismissed. She will get back to the YSSC.

- Nicole asked the YSSC to review the research on the chinook salmon rearing and overwintering habitat recommendation.
- Tim Gerberding and Al von Finster will be the YSSC leads on the Dawson Regional Land Use Plan.

Meeting end at 12:14 p.m.

YUKON SALMON SUB-COMMITTEE MIDSEASON MEETING

July 21, 22, 2021

Action Items

ACTION ITEM 1 – Express our gratitude to ADFG for their salmon management, specifically the fishery closures and enforcement this season.

ACTION ITEM 2 – In the postseason meeting have a workshop to look at what we need to do to provide compensation and funding for each First Nations for projects to bring salmon back in the future.

ACTION ITEM 3 – Host a postseason meeting strategy session around the fish ladder and the dam.

ACTION ITEM 4 – Tim and James will draft a response to the Minister RE the Minister's response to YSC's Yukon River salmon recommendations. Elizabeth, Carl, and Jason will then edit and send out the draft to the entire YSSC.

ACTION ITEM 5 – James will put together an interim proposal to support PSSI engagement in the Yukon. The proposal will include 1 to 2 workshop to strategize on compensation and funding gaps in the fall. This will include AAROM, CYFN, Canadian Mountain Network and possibly others.