



2026 Fraser Forum #1

2025 What We Heard Check-in

January 27, 2026

Introduction

- ✓ The intent of the “What We Heard” presentation is to capture the discussions and key priorities identified during Forum and highlight any next steps.
- ✓ For 2026, the previous-year summary presentation has evolved to include
 - summary of key action items from 2025 Forums
 - 2025 Fraser Salmon Management Board process & engagement



Photo Credit:
Secwepemc Fisheries
Commission

2025 Forums – Key Action Item Summary & Update

Action Item/Next Step	Update	What's next/ Additional Information
United Nations Declaration Act Workshop	Outside scope of Forum; DFO and FSMC explored funding sources, however current resourcing and capacity limited ability to scope out workshop to submit funding application over 2025-26	Identified interest to revisit when capacity and resourcing available
DFO update on Chinook Fisheries Science Advice Report Process	Fraser River Chinook CSAS Process anticipated to start Spring, 2026; Those interested in participating in the CSAS peer review can contact Selina.Agbayani@dfo-mpo.gc.ca until March 31, and thereafter, contact DFO.PacificCSA-CASPacifique.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca	Additional info on CSAS Review Process: Canadian Science Advisory Secretariat (CSAS) Policies and guidelines
DFO to brief JTWG on CTC memo re updated rec chinook catch estimates based on inclusion of iRec data – implications and next steps	There was a presentation provided to the Joint Technical Working Group yesterday.	
Proposed follow up re providing Canadian Mass Marking stats.	Technical report can be found here: Selective Fishery Evaluation - Pacific Salmon Commission	2025 report expected by summer, 2026.

For full list, visit the FSMC's website:
[Action-Tracker Fraser-Forums 2025.pdf](#)



Fraser Salmon Management Board

What We Heard 2025 & Process



2025 Review - Sockeye

- The draft 2025/26 IFMP included escapement plan options
- FSMC brought forward a third escapement plan option during consultation
- Broad IFMP feedback indicated interest in stronger conservation measures by increasing spawner escapement
- FSMB reached agreement on recommended principles to guide development of the escapement plan with a goal of higher spawning escapements and reduced harvest opportunity, based on median sockeye forecast (2.9M total)
 - 10% LAER for all management units
 - increasing Lower Fishery Reference Points (LFRP)
- FSMB was unable to identify an escapement plan that clearly addressed all the considerations in the time required to reach consensus, given the need for further technical advice on options
- Departmental decision was for higher spawning escapements and reduced harvest opportunities, with 10% LAER for all management units and increased the LFRP by 15%



Photo Credit: Secwepemc Fisheries Commission



2025 Review - Chinook

- FSMB consulted and engaged on five potential Fraser Chinook Summer 5₂ management scenarios intended to capture the broad range of feedback received in recent years.
- Feedback received through IFMP consultation process indicated disagreement on preferred management scenario & desired outcomes.
- FSMB reviewed feedback and assessed how well each scenario met its objectives.
- FSMB provided advice to the Minister on how well each of the scenarios addressed the Board's management objectives. FSMC also provided information on the significance of FSC fisheries & their preferred option.
- Ministerial decision to maintain management measures implemented in 2023/24 and 2024/25 for 2025/26.



Photo Credit: Secwepemc Fisheries Commission



2025/26 Fraser Chinook Summer 5₂

Feedback Summary

- **First Nations**

- Shift FMI to rights-based fisheries; UNDRIP; cultural significance of FSC & respecting priority
- Concern for data reliability (e.g. underestimating release mortality rates)
- Scenarios 1 and 2 unacceptable; scenarios 3 and 4 moving in right direction

- **Recreational**

- Scenarios 1 and 2 preferred; all other scenarios would have severe economic impact; scenario 5 would result in uncaught hatchery production that is intended for harvest
- Motion to allow increase to FMI to no more than 15% & that any increase beyond 2019-2023 average FMI results from harvest opportunities, whether incidental or directed, be provided to First Nations towards achieving FSC objectives

- **Commercial**

- Area F proposes start date move from the current Aug 20 timing to Aug 10, resulting in minimal to no impact on Chinook Summer 5₂
- Area G proposes moving start date from Aug 16 to Aug 1 with consideration for rolling opening. Shown to have no impact on Chinook Summer 5₂. Delays result in significant impact