



2026 Pre-season Planning Fraser Chinook Salmon Fisheries

Fraser Forum
24 February 2026



Overview

- IFMP timeline
- Fishery objectives
- Planning considerations
- Key Questions and Handoff to FSMB



2026/27 IFMP Timelines

Activity	Proposed Timelines
Deadline for new CSAF proposals	January 23, 2026
Deadline for any other new, non-CSAF, fishery proposals to be included in the draft IFMP	January 23, 2026
Post-season review at Fraser Forum	January 27-29, 2026
Meetings to review and discuss potential changes to IFMPs and opportunity for focused discussion on key IFMP issues.	Northern IHPC – February 5, 2026 Southern IHPC – February 6, 2026
Draft IFMPs released for public review & comment	Late February, 2026
Meetings to review draft IFMP	Northern IHPC – March 11, 2026 Southern IHPC – March 10, 2026 Fraser Forum – February 24-27, 2026
Deadline to submit comments on draft IFMP (minimum 30-day comment period)	April 10, 2026
Final Meetings for discussion on IFMP feedback	Fraser Forum – March 31 – April 2, 2026 Full IHPC – April 22-23, 2026
Target for public release of salmon IFMP	June 26, 2026

FISHERY OBJECTIVES



Fishery Objectives

- Integrated Fisheries Management Plan summarizes high level objectives pertaining to rebuilding/conserving stocks of concern, as well as access and allocation objectives
- Objectives are operationalized and refined annually through the escapement plan and associated management measures.
- Objectives exist for both international and Canadian obligations



Fishery Objectives

- International objective:
 - Manage Canadian treaty fisheries to ensure that obligations within the Pacific Salmon Treaty are achieved.
- For Chinook, see Chapter 3:

Aggregate Abundance Based Management (AABM) Fisheries are managed to a TAC Set annually

Individual Stock Based Management (ISBM) fisheries managed to stock specific annual exploitation rate limits:

- | | |
|---|-------|
| • Spring 4 ₂ (Nicola) | 16,7% |
| • Summer 4 ₁ (Lower Shuswap) | 20% |
| • Fall 4 ₁ (Harrison) | 10.9% |



Fishery Objectives

- Domestic conservation objectives:
 - For Fraser Chinook Stocks of concern allow as many fish to pass through to the spawning grounds as possible
 - OPERATIONALIZED as desired FMI outcomes
 - Spring 4_2 FMI less than 5
 - Spring 5_2 FMI less than 5
 - Summer 5_2 FMI target 10-14



Fishery Objectives

- Domestic access and allocation objectives:
 - Manage fisheries to ensure that, after conservation needs are met, First Nations' food, social and ceremonial requirements and treaty obligations to First Nations have first priority in salmon allocations in accordance with the Allocation Policy for Pacific Salmon
 - Afterwards manage recreational and commercial fisheries for sustainable benefits consistent with established policies.
- Implementation in the Fraser:
 - After conservation, First Nations rights-based fisheries are provided priority access for directed harvest.
 - Aboriginal priority is achieved by providing **the majority of** fishery-related mortality of Fraser River Summer 5₂ Chinook salmon to First Nations fisheries.

PLANNING PROCESS



Planning Considerations

- Chinook fisheries do not have in-season abundance estimates or an overarching management processes so are managed based on estimated outcomes
- Pre-season planning tools are coarse in many cases
- Some fisheries have modeling tools but mostly we rely on understanding of historic run timing and distribution and catch and effort for planning.
- There is 1-2 year lag in getting post season information to evaluate outcomes and feedback



Planning Considerations

- The FSMB will work through a process to develop a recommendation on a package of fisheries intended to meet several objectives:
 - Conservation: Continue the precautionary fishery measures to provide a high degree of protection
 - Aboriginal Priority: Priority for First-Nations right based and treaty domestic fisheries
 - Other Fisheries : Manage other fisheries so they are targeting more abundant stocks with limited mortality of Summer 5₂ Chinook
- Once annual objectives are set fisheries are managed based on those annual objectives using the tools specific to each Area or Nation
 - Effort models, Historic catch, Historic fishing patterns
- DFO does **not** have a sharing approach or a way to prioritize access between nations objectives when there is insufficient abundance for all allocations to be met



Planning Considerations

Incorporation of recommendations and advice

- FSMB process will be leading the development of scenarios and considerations
- IFMP process takes advice and recommendations, directly from the Forum, through area and bilateral meetings, and through correspondence. This feedback is collected, summarized, and shared with the FSMB and decisions makers.

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Key Questions

This week you have a chance to workshop with other Forum participants, FSMB organizers, and share advice and recommendations.

- **Are the conservation objectives sufficient?**
- **Is the aboriginal priority objective sufficient?**
- **Do you have advice about sharing of access?**