



Fraser Salmon  
Management Council



Fisheries and Oceans  
Canada

Pêches et Océans  
Canada

## FRASER & APPROACH SALMON FISHERIES

# FORUM 3

**📅 DATE:** MARCH 31 - APRIL 2, 2026

**📍 PLACE:**

**IN PERSON:** GRAND HOTEL NANAIMO

4898 RUTHERFORD RD, NANAIMO, BRITISH COLUMBIA

**ZOOM:** [HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/83059352976?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83059352976?pwd=8ZDUA1REHBZ62OEVS8ZBBEXAIYCBRY.1)

PWD=8ZDUA1REHBZ62OEVS8ZBBEXAIYCBRY.1

**MEETING ID:** 830 5935 2976 **PASSCODE:** 074032

**DIAL IN:** +15873281099 OR +16473744685

### Purpose and Objectives of this Event:

The intent of this meeting is:

- for DFO and the FSMB to further share their considerations for 2026 fisheries planning and host discussion on priorities, options, and approaches to inform such planning; and,
- to support Tier 1 dialogue amongst First Nations with interests in Fraser Salmon on technical information, perspectives, options, and priorities for fishery planning.

## EVENT OUTLINE

### TUES March 31<sup>st</sup> – DAY 1 PROCEEDINGS

- There will be a social session from 8:30AM- 9AM
- Tier 2 Focus: Fraser Steelhead, Fraser Coho, Southern B.C. Chum, Fraser Chinook
- Tier 1 Focus: 2026 Forum Synthesis and Plenary

### WED April 1<sup>st</sup> – DAY 2 PROCEEDINGS

- There will be a social session from 8:30AM- 9AM
- Tier 2 Focus : Pacific Salmon Treaty Renegotiations, Fraser Sockeye
- Tier 1 Focus in the PM: IFMP Regional Breakouts
- Forum #3 Meet and Greet Reception (5:30 pm)

### THURS April 2<sup>nd</sup> – DAY 3 PROCEEDINGS

- There will be a social session from 8:30AM- 9AM
- Tier 1 Focus: Discussion & Recommendations, Additional Priorities, Next Steps
- Tier 2 Focus: Debrief of key Tier 1 messages to DFO, Recap What We Heard

### NEW THINGS AT THIS FORUM

- Pacific Salmon Treaty Renegotiations presentation

JOIN MEETING: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83059352976?pwd=8zDua1rEhbz62oEVs8ZbbeXAIYCbRY.1>

**Day 1: Tuesday, March 31, 2026**

	# Time	Topics	Lead(s)	Objective(s)
	1 8:30 – 9:00	<b>Social</b> A chance to sign in, make sure your system is working, say hello and update your profile with your name and affiliation	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connection and relationship building</li> </ul>
	2 9:00 – 10:00	<b>Getting Started   Day 1 – Tier 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome, Opening Remarks &amp; Traditional Blessing</li> <li>• Introductions</li> <li>• Agenda Review</li> <li>• Setting the Stage &amp; Timeline Review</li> <li>• Review of Key Action Items from Forums 1 &amp; 2</li> </ul>	Marcel S Greg W (FSMC) and Robin H (DFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set the stage &amp; provide an overview of the day</li> </ul>
	3 10:00 – 10:30	<b>T̓silhqot̓'in (Chilcotin) led Steelhead Recovery</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on T̓silhqot̓'in-led Steelhead recovery work</li> <li>• Details of research to inform recovery planning</li> </ul>	Pete N (TNG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate First Nations leadership on recovery</li> </ul>
Tier 2	4 10:30 - 10:45	<b>2026 Management – Fraser Coho and Southern B.C. Chum</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a summary of what DFO has heard through the draft IFMP consultation process to date for the management of Southern BC Coho and Chum fisheries</li> <li>• Preliminary considerations for 2026 management based on feedback received to date</li> <li>• Opportunity for clarifying questions to support Tier 1 discussion</li> </ul>	Jeff R (DFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Present feedback received to date on Fraser Coho and Southern B.C. Chum management, ensuring participants have a shared understanding of key themes and issues raised.</li> <li>• Outline DFO's preliminary considerations for 2026 management, demonstrating how feedback has informed early thinking and identifying areas where further input may be needed</li> <li>• Provide space for clarifying questions to support well-informed Tier 1 discussion</li> </ul>

	10:45 - 11:00	Break	All	
	5 11:00 – 11:10	<b>DFO Operations Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide available update on DFO internal Realignment</li> </ul>	Steve G (DFO)	
	6 11:10 - 12:00	<b>2026 Fraser Chinook Management</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fraser Summer 5<sub>2</sub> Management Scenario B - Management measures</li> <li>• Management considerations for 2026</li> <li>• Summary of feedback to date</li> </ul>	Jeff G (DFO-FSMB) Mike H (DFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share information on potential management actions for Summer 5<sub>2</sub> Chinook</li> <li>• Share information on feedback received through IFMP process</li> </ul>
	12:00- 1:00	Lunch		
<b>Tier 1</b>	6 1:00-4:30	<b>Tier 1 Discussion – 2026 Forum Synthesis</b> <i>Agenda to be provided to Tier 1 participants</i>		

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## Day 2: Wednesday, April 1, 2026

#	Time	Topics	Lead(s)	Objective(s)	
1	8:30-9:00	<b>Social</b> A chance to sign in, make sure your system is working, say hello and update your profile with your name and affiliation	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Connection &amp; relationship building</li> </ul>	
2	9:00-9:10	<b>Getting Started   Day 2 – Tier 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agenda Review</li> </ul>	Marcel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set the stage &amp; provide an overview of the day</li> </ul>	
Tier 2	3	9:10 - 11:00	<b>Pacific Salmon Treaty Renewal</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview of Pacific Salmon Treaty</li> <li>Update of early 2026 discussions within the Canadian Caucus of the Fraser Panel</li> <li>Negotiating issues heard to date</li> <li>When and where First Nations engagement sessions on PST renegotiations will occur</li> <li>Provide linkages between Treaty and domestic fisheries management</li> <li>Open dialogue of First Nations Panel members and technical Committee representatives providing input on key negotiating issues</li> <li>Seek feedback on Pacific Salmon Treaty Renegotiation Issues</li> </ul>	Andy T (DFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Share information about the Pacific Salmon Treaty, negotiation issues raised to date, and renegotiations engagement process</li> <li>Relate international treaty obligations to domestic fisheries</li> <li>Seek feedback on Pacific Salmon Treaty Renegotiation Issues</li> </ul>
		11:00 - 11:15	Break	All	
	4	11:15 - 12:00	<b>2026 Management – Fraser Sockeye</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review international and domestic fishery objectives</li> <li>Review management considerations</li> <li>Review Escapement Plan options, potential fisheries and provide detail of the Variable LAER</li> <li>Timeline of key components of in-season information that informs management decisions</li> <li>Provide a summary of what FSMB and DFO have heard to date through the draft IFMP consultation process for Fraser Sockeye management</li> </ul>	Adam K (DFO), Al Magnan (DFO-FSMB)  Aidan F (JTC), Colin S (DFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure a shared understanding of international and domestic fishery objectives relevant to Fraser Sockeye management</li> <li>Review management considerations for 2026 to inform Tier 1 discussions and advice to the FSMB and DFO</li> <li>Clarify the timing of key sources of in-season information that guide Fraser Sockeye management decisions,</li> </ul>

			<p>ensuring participants understand how data flows and assessments will shape in-season actions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Summarize feedback received to date on Fraser Sockeye management, ensuring participants have a shared understanding of key themes and issues raised.</li> <li>Receive advice from Forum about trade-offs between escapement plan options, and the preferred approach from Forum participants</li> </ul>
	12:00-1:00	Lunch (First Nations & DFO)	All
Tier 1	5	1:00-4:30	<b>Tier 1 Discussion – IFMP Discussions</b> <i>Agenda to be provided to Tier 1 participants</i>

***Forum #3 Meet and Greet Reception***

**Please join the Forum Planning Committee, FSMB members, and FSMC staff for light refreshments (cash bar and Karaoke)**

***5:30 – 9:00 pm***

## Day 3: Thursday April 2, 2026

	#	Time	Topics	Lead(s)	Objective(s)
Tier 1	1	8:30-9:00	<b>Social</b> A chance to sign in, make sure your system is working & say hello	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connection &amp; relationship building</li> </ul>
	2	09:00-10:30	<b>Tier 1 Dialogue</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparations for Forum # 3 Reflections to DFO</li> </ul>	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
Tier 2		10:30-10:45	Break	All	
	3	10:45 – 11:15	<b>Report back from Tier 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key messages to share with DFO</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
	4	11:15 – 12:00	<b>Closing the Loop   DRAFT What We Heard</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key priorities identified at this Forum</li> <li>• Identifying next steps for addressing priorities</li> <li>• Highlighting key planning and decision deadlines</li> <li>• Forum Planning Committee</li> </ul>	Robin (DFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share the key themes of what FSMB and DFO heard in day 1 and 2.</li> <li>• Provide opportunity for clarification of key points/action items captured or missed</li> </ul>
	Bagged Lunch Available			All	

## Key Contacts and Presenters

Role (s)	Name (Affiliation)	Details
Facilitator	Marcel Shepert	Marcel is the Independent Chair for the Fraser Salmon Management Board, Co-Chair of the Canadian Fraser River Panel, and our Forum Facilitator
Logistics & Coordination	Dave Feil & Kayla Pretti (FSMC)	Dave is the Community Coordinator, and Kayla is the Administrative Assistant for Fraser Salmon Management Council
Speaker	Mike Hawkshaw (DFO)	Mike is the Regional Salmon Manager and the Canadian Co-chair Fraser River Panel Canadian Co-chair
Speaker	Jeffrey Radford (DFO)	Jeff is an acting Regional Salmon Manager with the Regional Salmon Team, responsible for Chum, Coho, and Steelhead
Speaker	Adam Keizer (DFO)	Adam is the Canadian Chair of the Fraser River Panel and Senior Salmon Advisor
Speaker Forum Planning Ctte Co-Chair	Greg Witzky (FSMC)	Greg is a member of the Adams Lake Indian Band, the Executive Director of the Fraser Salmon Management Council, and a member of the Canadian Fraser River Panel
Speaker Forum Planning Ctte Co-Chair	Robin Hawes (DFO)	Robin is the Acting Senior Implementation Advisor for the Fraser Salmon Collaborative Management Agreement
Speaker	Jeff Grout (DFO)	Jeff is the Director of Salmon and Client Services and one of the Department's representatives on the Fraser Salmon Management Board.
Speaker	Pat Matthew (FSMB)	Pat is a member of the Simpcw First Nation, the mid Fraser FSMC representative on the Fraser Salmon Management Board and a Fishery policy manager for the Secwepemc Fisheries Commission
Speaker	Andy Thomson (DFO)	Andy is the Regional Director of Science for the DFO Pacific Region, and is an alternate Canadian Commissioner to the Pacific Salmon Commission
Speaker	Aidan Fisher (JTC)	Aidan is a Biologist and the Joint Technical Committee Co-Chair
Speaker	Pete Nicklin (TNG)	Pete is a Biologist with the T̓silhqot'in National Government
Speaker Joint Technical Working Group Co- Chair	Kelsey Campbell (UFFCA)	Kelsey is a Stock Management Biologist for the Upper Fraser Fisheries Conservation Alliance (UFFCA), a member of Fraser River Panel Technical Committee for the Pacific Salmon Commission, and the First Nations Co-Chair of the Joint Technical Working Group
Speaker Joint Technical Working Group Co- Chair	Colin Schwindt (DFO)	Colin is a Resource Management Biologist, a member of the Fraser River Panel Technical Committee and the DFO Co-Chair of the Joint Technical Working Group
Speaker	Steve Gotch (DFO)	Steve is the Senior Director of Operations in the Pacific Region

## Acronyms & Definitions

Please suggest additions to [robin.hawes@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:robin.hawes@dfo-mpo.gc.ca) or [engagement@frasersalmon.ca](mailto:engagement@frasersalmon.ca)

<b>AABM</b>	Aggregate Abundance-Based Management	<b>FSCMA, CMA</b>	Fraser Salmon Collaborative Management Agreement
<b>AAROM</b>	Aboriginal Aquatic Resource and Oceans Management	<b>IC</b>	Incident Command, FSMB's Independent Chair
<b>AFS</b>	Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy	<b>ITQ</b>	Individual Transfer Quota
<b>ATP</b>	Allocation Transfer Program	<b>IHPC</b>	Integrated Harvest Planning Committee
<b>BBL</b>	Big Bar Landslide	<b>ISBM</b>	Individual Stock-Based Management
<b>CCTAC</b>	Canadian Commercial Total Allowable Catch	<b>JTC</b>	Joint Technical Committee
<b>COHO ABM</b>	Coho Abundance-Based Management	<b>LAER</b>	Low Abundance Exploitation Rates
<b>COSEWIC</b>	Committee for the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada	<b>LRP</b>	Lower Reference Points
<b>CPUE</b>	Catch Per Unit Effort	<b>MM</b>	Mass Marking
<b>CRRI</b>	Chinook Rebuilding & Recovery Initiative	<b>MSY</b>	Maximum Sustainable Yield
<b>CSAS</b>	Canadian Science Advisory Secretariat (DFO)	<b>MSF</b>	Mark Selective Fishery
<b>CSAB</b>	Commercial Salmon Advisory Board	<b>PICFI</b>	Pacific Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative
<b>CWT</b>	Coded Wire Tag	<b>PSC</b>	Pacific Salmon Commission
<b>ER</b>	Exploitation Rate	<b>PSSI</b>	Pacific Salmon Strategic Initiative
<b>ESSR</b>	Excess Salmon to Spawning Requirements	<b>PST</b>	Pacific Salmon Treaty
<b>FNFC</b>	First Nations Fishery Council	<b>RPA</b>	Recovery Potential Assessment
<b>FRAM</b>	Fisheries Regulation Assessment Model	<b>SAP</b>	Salmon Allocation Policy
<b>FRIM</b>	Fisheries Related Incidental Mortality	<b>SARA</b>	Species at Risk Act
<b>FMI</b>	Fisheries Mortality Index	<b>SFAB</b>	Sport Fishing Advisory Board
<b>FRP</b>	Fraser River Panel	<b>SHMF</b>	Selective Hatchery Mark Fishery
<b>FSAR</b>	Fisheries Science Advisory Report	<b>TAC</b>	Total Allowable Catch
<b>FSRR</b>	Fisheries Science Response Report	<b>TAM</b>	Total Allowable Mortality
<b>FSC</b>	Food, Social and Ceremonial	<b>WLRS</b>	Water, Lands and Resource Stewardship – Provincial Ministry
<b>FSMB</b>	Fraser Salmon Management Board	<b>WSP</b>	Wild Salmon Policy (Canada's Policy for Conservation of Wild Pacific Salmon)
<b>FSMC</b>	Fraser Salmon Management Council		