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December 11, 2019

To First Nations and Stakeholders,

Re: Salmon 2020/2021 Integrated Fisheries Management Plans (IFMPs) for Northern and Southern British Columbia (BC)

This letter is intended to communicate the Department's key planning priorities for developing the 2020/2021 Northern and Southern BC Salmon IFMPs and alert you to important dates and deadlines for this year's process. Specifically, this letter identifies areas where potential fishery management changes are under consideration or substantial discussion on current management approaches is expected for the 2020 season (see Appendix 1 for details).

Further discussion with First Nations and advisory groups on these priority topics will take place during the consultation process to develop the 2020/21 salmon IFMPs. Additional details on specific changes to inform discussions will be identified in the draft IFMPs that will be released at the end of February. If you wish to provide feedback on the planning priorities identified in this letter or other areas where you seek to propose changes for the IFMPs, you are requested to provide feedback in writing by **January 13th, 2020** to the DFO Pacific Salmon Management Team at:

DFO.PacificSalmonRMT-EGRSaumonduDpacifique.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

The Department intends to share all feedback received with First Nations and stakeholders during meetings in late January / February to support discussion and development of the draft IFMPs. Salmon IFMPs are developed annually; the plans currently in place are effective June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020. The process to develop the salmon IFMPs is consistent with national guidelines for all IFMPs (see <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/peches-fisheries/ifmp-gmp/index-eng.htm>).

The current 2019/2020 Salmon IFMPs are available at:

Southern BC – <https://waves-vagues.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/Library/40799104.pdf>

Northern BC – <https://waves-vagues.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/Library/40797168.pdf>

Below is a table outlining the important dates for the development of the salmon IFMPs for the coming year.

2019-2020 Salmon IFMPs Process Timelines

Activity	Proposed Timelines
Salmon Post Season Review Meetings for Northern and Southern BC All First Nations and stakeholders invited to attend.	Northern – December 5-6 th , 2019 in Prince Rupert Southern - December 16 th , 2019 by Conference Call/WebEx only
Deadline for written submissions from First Nations and advisory groups on issues identified in the DFO IFMP letter. Timelines for commercial demonstration fishery proposals are also identified.	January 13 th , 2020
2020 Salmon Outlook and State of the Ocean reports. All First Nations and stakeholders invited to attend.	January 20 th , 2019 from 9 am to 12pm – via Conference Call/WebEx
Meetings to review and discuss potential changes to IFMPs and opportunity for focussed discussion on key IFMP issues. Additional meetings with First Nations organizations and advisory groups are also identified in the attached calendar.	FN Forum (February 4-6, 2020) Northern - Prince Rupert (February 5, 2020) Southern IHPC – Vancouver (February 6, 2020)
Draft IFMPs released for public review & comment	Approx. February 26, 2020
Meetings to review draft IFMP	Northern IHPC – Prince Rupert (March 4, 2020); and, Southern IHPC – Vancouver (March 5, 2020) FN Forum (March 10-12, 2020)
Deadline to submit comments on draft IFMP (30 day comment period).	April 15, 2020
Final Meetings for discussion on IFMP feedback.	Full IHPC –Vancouver (April 28-29, 2020) FN Forum (Apr 7-9, 2020) - WebEx
Target for public release of salmon IFMP	June 2020

The key planning priorities for the 2020 season are listed in Appendix 1. The Department is looking for feedback on any proposed changes that the First Nations and stakeholders would like considered during the IFMP planning process.

If you have any comments or concerns about the IFMP process for the coming year, please contact Ge Li at ge.li@dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

Yours sincerely,

DFO Pacific Salmon Management Team

DFO.PacificSalmonRMT-EGRSaumonduDpacifique.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

Appendix (1):

1. Key planning priorities for the 2020 season

Key planning priorities for the 2020 season:

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1. Pacific Salmon Outlook

For 2020, DFO Science is making changes to the Outlook document in order to:

- Align CU groupings with stock management units (SMUs) to better inform decision-making consistent with Fish Stock provisions in the Fisheries Act and IFMP requirements.
- For those SMUs with statistical forecasts, consolidate and report them in the Outlook.
- For those SMUs without statistical forecast, standardize the interpretation of SMU status in relation to outlook categories;
- Add information regarding leading indicators and previous year returns.

It is hoped these changes will result in a document that provides more useful and relevant information to inform management decisions. As a result of these changes, the document will not be available until late January.

2. Big Bar Landslide

On June 23rd, 2019, DFO was notified of a landslide near Big Bar, British Columbia and on June 29, a Unified Command Incident Management Team was established in Lillooet, B.C. with personnel representing the governments of Canada, British Columbia and First Nations. From July to September, almost 700 personnel, external experts and contractors were directly involved in the hands-on-response in Lillooet, and at the slide site, with dozens more supporting the efforts virtually, in a variety of different capacities.

While some early estimates of very poor salmon returns due to the rockslide are circulating, work is ongoing to finalize the scientific evaluation around the fish migration, spawning and mortality data, which will be released once completed (likely March). Some runs of salmon, particularly Early Stuart Sockeye

and Fraser Spring 5₂ and Summer 5₂ Chinook, are expected to have low numbers of spawners in part due to migration barriers early in the summer at the Big Bar Rock slide. Continued sustained efforts will be required both in the short and long-term, possibly even into years ahead, to reduce the impact of the landslide on future salmon returns. Recognizing the need to prepare for next season, DFO is currently pursuing and planning to more effectively assist salmon migration in 2020, should this be required. Additional management measures to close or curtail fisheries to protect Fraser salmon stocks migrating to spawning areas upstream of the rockslide will likely be required for the 2020 season; further discussion with First Nations and advisory groups will occur on management measures that will be required in 2020.

3. First Nations Food, Social and Ceremonial Fishery Opportunities

Conservation of salmon populations is the primary objective in managing the resource. After conservation requirements are met, the Department is committed to respecting Constitutional and Treaty obligations to provide priority access for First Nations Food, Social and Ceremonial (FSC) harvest opportunities. It is anticipated that conservation measures or low returns for many salmon populations, particularly those returning to the Fraser River and Skeena River may constrain First Nations FSC harvest opportunities while stocks of concern migrate through fishing areas. In 2019, First Nations fisheries in Southern BC and the Fraser River were highly constrained into late July or August to protect at risk Fraser River Chinook and protect very poor Fraser sockeye returns; fishing opportunities in the fall were also constrained by window closures to protect Interior Fraser Coho and Thompson/Chilcotin Steelhead.

For 2020, pre-season fishing plans will need to consider on-going conservation concerns and constraints for FSC harvest opportunities. Departmental staff will consult with First Nations on fishing plans that achieve conservation objectives and FSC fishery opportunities to provide for harvest of small numbers of fish for ceremonial purposes (particularly when stocks of concern may be impacted), as well as more abundant stocks and/or surpluses that are identified in terminal areas. Additional restrictions in commercial and recreational fisheries may be required to provide for First Nations harvest opportunities. Pre-season and in-season plans to address these concerns will be discussed with First Nations and stakeholders as part of the IFMP development process.

For Fraser River salmon, the Fraser Salmon Collaborative Management Agreement was signed on July 5, 2019 by the Minister and the President of the Fraser Salmon Management Council. The Fraser Salmon Management Council is a mandated body with First Nations membership from throughout the Fraser watershed and approach waters. The agreement sets out a governance framework that will support engagement, decision making and recommendations relating to management of Fraser salmon. The Department is working to with the Fraser Salmon Management Board (FSMB) to develop a work plan and it is anticipated this process will support planning for the 2020 season.

4. COSEWIC and SARA Process

Over 60 salmon and two anadromous trout designatable units (DUs) have been recently, or will soon be, assessed by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC). COSEWIC's submission of its assessments to the Government of Canada, via its annual report, initiates the process to determine whether or not to list a species under the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA). For regular (non-emergency) processes, the Governor in Council (Cabinet) may, on the recommendation of the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, add the species to the List of Wildlife Species at Risk; decide not to add the species to the List; or refer the matter back to COSEWIC.

To inform the recommendation and final listing decision, DFO prepares the following regional information: a Recovery Potential Assessment (science advice); management scenarios (outlining measures to potentially be taken if the species is, or is not listed); Indigenous Cultural Significance information; a Cost-Benefit Analysis; and, consultations with First Nations, Stakeholders, ENGOs and the general public. Management Scenarios will outline measures that would potentially be taken under a “Do Not List” or a “List” outcome; the latter will include a focus on how SARA prohibitions may impact fisheries.

Consultations to solicit input from First Nations, Stakeholders, ENGOs and the general public are undertaken prior to submitting a regional recommendation (for non-emergency processes) for consideration in a final SARA listing decision.

Additional details can be found here: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry.html>.

Species	# of DUs*	COSEWIC Assessment Date	COSEWIC Status	COSEWIC Annual Report Date
Sakinaw Sockeye	1	2016 (April)	EN	Oct 2016
Interior Fraser Coho	1	2016 (November)	TH	Oct 2017
Okanagan Chinook	1	2017 (April)	EN	Oct 2017
Fraser Sockeye (Group I)	24	2017 (November)	8 EN, 2 TH, 5 SC, 9 NAR	Oct 2018
Southern BC Chinook (Group I)	16	2018 (November)	8 EN, 4 TH, 1 SC, 1 NAR, 2 DD	Oct 2019
Fraser Sockeye (Group II)	7	2020 (April)	TBD	Anticipated Oct 2020
Southern BC Chinook (Group II)	12	2020 (April)	TBD	Anticipated Oct 2020
Steelhead Trout (Thompson & Chilcotin) Regular re-assessment	2	2020 (April)	TBD	Anticipated Oct 2020

EN – Endangered

TH – Threatened

SC – Special Concern

NAR – Not at Risk

DD – Data Deficient

*DU refers to “designatable unit” or population. DUs and Wild Salmon Policy Conservation Units are similar, and in most cases, the same

**underwent an Emergency Assessment, as per SARA S.28 (1).

Further information on the SARA listing process can be found at: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-act-accord-funding/listing-process/act.html>

5. Southern BC and Fraser Chinook

In April 2019, the Minister announced a broad suite of fisheries management actions to respond to the serious conservation issues facing Fraser Chinook Populations in 2019. The Minister also committed to engaging with First Nations, Province of BC, and stakeholders to provide advice and recommendations on approaches to address a broad range of issues facing Chinook stocks including: 1) conservation issues, including land and water use issues, 2) fish habitat issues, 3) the role of hatcheries to support rebuilding and the potential for marked fisheries, and 4) how seals and sea lions maybe affecting Chinook salmon, and other relevant topics.

The committee outlined above has since been formed with the scope of work focused on Southern BC Chinook conservation units, their ecosystems and habitats in British Columbia. Participants in the process will be asked to provide advice and recommendations on concrete management actions or proposals for the 2020 Chinook season and well as longer term actions to support recovery of these Chinook populations. DFO intends to consult broadly with First Nations and stakeholders on any management action recommendations or proposals through the IFMP consultation process before decisions are made.

In 2019, DFO implemented fisheries management measures to support the recovery of at risk Fraser River Chinook populations (see details here: <https://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/maps-cartes/salmon-saumon/2019-chinook-quinnat-eng.html>). These measures were developed following consultation with First Nations communities, recreational and commercial fishing organizations and environmental organizations. DFO implemented highly precautionary fishery restrictions intended to provide a high degree of protection to at risk Fraser Spring 4₂, Spring 5₂ and Summer 5₂ Chinook returning in 2019. The management target was to reduce overall Canadian fishery mortalities on these populations to near 5% (note, the actual outcomes may vary around this target given uncertainties in the data). A review of whether the 2019 fishery management measures achieved these management targets will require an assessment of coded-wire tag data, stock composition information, and an evaluation of impacts of the Big Bar rockslide; information to support this assessment is usually available beginning in March 2020.

For 2020, planning will need to account for potential unfavorable marine/freshwater survival conditions and low productivity and potential negative impacts of the Big Bar rockslide on Fraser Chinook stocks. Ongoing precautionary fishery management actions to support conservation and promote rebuilding of these stocks will be needed. This will require continued restrictions and/or closures to fisheries in times and areas where these stocks are encountered in Northern and Southern BC including First Nations, recreational and commercial fisheries in marine areas and the Fraser River.

Management measures identified in the current Salmon Integrated Fisheries Management Plans (effective June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020) will need to be reviewed to consider potential measures for implementation beginning in late winter/early spring 2020, as well as, measures that will be included in the new IFMPs covering the period from June 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021.

6. Southern Resident Killer Whales

Southern Resident Killer Whales continue to face threats to their survival and recovery. In 2019, the Government implemented a suite of measures to strengthen the protection of the species by the time the whales typically return to the Salish Sea in greater numbers in the spring. This included fishery management measures to increase prey availability of Chinook salmon (their primary prey) and reduce

physical and acoustic disturbance within Southern Resident Killer Whale forage areas found in the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Gulf Islands and the mouth of the Fraser River. These or similar measures will be considered for 2020.

For the 2020 salmon fishing season, the Department intends to identify management actions by Spring 2020 to coincide with the return of Southern Resident Killer Whales in greater numbers to the Salish Sea. Management measures are intended to support increased Chinook prey availability and reduce physical and acoustic disturbance in key Southern Resident Killer Whale foraging areas within Southern Resident Killer Whale Critical Habitat. The Southern Resident Killer Whale Prey Technical Working Group will be discussing potential measures to increase prey availability for Southern Resident Killer Whales including longer-term actions for key Chinook stocks, such as supporting salmon enhancement and habitat restoration. Potential measures will be identified in draft salmon IFMPs for further discussion with First Nations and stakeholders.

7. Interior Fraser River Steelhead

Species At Risk Act Update

In January 2018, the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) assessed the Thompson and Chilcotin River Steelhead Designatable Units (DU's) as Endangered, triggering a Species at Risk Act (SARA) Emergency Listing Process. The Recovery Potential Assessment completed by DFO Science to inform Cabinet's Listing Decision identified changes in the marine environment, fishing mortality, degradation of freshwater and marine habitats, predation and competition as the key threats and limiting factors most relevant to the survival and recovery of these populations. This document also noted that while reducing fishing mortality has the potential to lessen the rates of decline in abundance for these populations, eliminating exploitation alone would not result in population recovery. SARA Emergency Listing consultations were completed for Thompson and Chilcotin River Steelhead in December 2018.

On July 11, 2019 the Minister of Fisheries announced Cabinet's decision not to list Thompson or Chilcotin River Steelhead under the Species at Risk Act, opting to recover these stocks through existing regulatory mechanisms under the recently amended Fisheries Act. This decision terminated the Emergency Listing Process for these two Designatable Units.

Currently, there is no SARA Listing Process underway for Thompson and Chilcotin River Steelhead. The next COSEWIC assessment of these DU's is scheduled to occur in April 2020, with results of this assessment expected to be published in the COSEWIC Annual Report released in October 2020. If this next assessment determines that these populations remain Threatened, Endangered, or of Special Concern, a new SARA Listing Process will be triggered following the release of the COSEWIC Annual Report.

Fisheries Management Measures to Support Interior Fraser River Steelhead Recovery

Addressing poor stock status and declines in spawner abundance of Interior Fraser River (IFR) Steelhead (the management group that includes Thompson and Chilcotin River Steelhead) requires a precautionary approach to reduce incidental fishery mortalities and allow as many of these fish as possible to reach spawning areas. For many years, a window closure approach has been used within the Fraser River to reduce bycatch of Steelhead during commercial fisheries targeting salmon. In 2018 and 2019, the window closure approach was expanded both spatially and temporally, and to all fishing sectors, to protect IFR Steelhead along their migration corridor in marine waters and into the Fraser River and tributaries.

Window closures were used to reduce incidental impacts on IFR Steelhead in salmon fisheries because of the high uncertainty in the estimates of IFR Steelhead exploitation rate in these fisheries. This uncertainty is a product of the rarity of Steelhead encounters, the lack of validation of release estimates, and the unknown stock composition of Steelhead encountered in mixed-stock areas. The SARA Recovery Potential Assessment for Thompson and Chilcotin Steelhead illustrated this uncertainty by noting that while the overall exploitation rate of Canadian fisheries on these stocks was between 0 to 25%, exploitation rate estimates could not be reasonably applied to specific fisheries, given the extreme degree of uncertainty in the data.

In-season projections of escapement for Thompson and Chilcotin River Steelhead suggest that escapement for 2019 returns is likely to be the lowest on record (134 and 62 spawners respectively). Expectations for IFR Steelhead in 2020 are for continued extremely poor returns, requiring ongoing measures to reduce impacts in salmon fisheries to maximize the number of potential IFR Steelhead spawners. Specific measures to be implemented in 2020 will be based on those measures implemented in 2019. Any proposed modifications to the 2019 approach are expected to reflect conservation actions that are commensurate with these abundance levels.

8. Fraser River Sockeye

2020 is an off-cycle return year for Fraser sockeye and typically has the lowest return of the 4 cycle return years. A quantitative forecast of Fraser sockeye returns is expected in early 2020. Fraser sockeye returns have been less than the forecast median (p50) for most of the last decade with 2010 the only exception. As a result, planning will need to consider the potential for a range of returns, as well as, specific management measures for protecting and rebuilding conservation units.

Key considerations during consultations will include the duration of the window closure to protect weak stocks returning at the start of the season, the escapement plan for Early Stuart, Early Summer, Summer and Late run aggregates and additional management measures for stocks of concern. The Department plans to identify 2 escapement plan options in the draft IFMP for consideration in 2020. Options are usually informed by the escapement plan implemented in the brood year (i.e. 2016-green highlight in table below) and modifications to account for annual considerations including forecast returns. The table below provides information on the fishery reference points implemented in previous years to inform planning. In addition, further discussion will be required on the potential for additional terminal harvest opportunities for Fraser sockeye stocks that may return in abundance.

For each management aggregate, the escapement plan also identifies a Low Abundance Exploitation Rate (LAER) for cases when there is zero or very low total allowable mortality for a run timing group that allows for limited fisheries directed on co-migrating stocks or species. The LAERs have previously been set at 10% for Early Stuart, Early Summer and Summer run timing groups and 20 to 30% for Late run sockeye in past Adams dominant years. In 2019 and 2020, 20% LAERs were used for Early Summer and Summer run timing groups.

Summary of Fraser River sockeye escapement plan / fishery reference points used in previous years.

Mgmt Unit	Early Stuart		Early Summer ^a		Summer ^a		Late ^a	
Fishery Reference Points	Lower	Upper	Lower	Upper	Lower	Upper	Lower	Upper
2007	108,000	270,000	120,000	300,000	600,000	1,500,000	400,000	1,000,000
2008	108,000	270,000	120,000	300,000	520,000	1,300,000	400,000	1,000,000
2009	156,000	390,000	120,000	300,000	520,000	1,300,000	400,000	1,000,000
2010	156,000	390,000	200,000	500,000	1,000,000	2,500,000	1,200,000	3,000,000
2011	108,000	270,000	120,000	300,000	520,000	1,300,000	400,000	1,000,000
2012	52,000	130,000	100,000	250,000	640,000	1,600,000	300,000	750,000
2013	108,000	270,000	100,000	250,000	1,250,000	3,125,000	300,000	750,000
2014	108,000	270,000	180,000	450,000	1,020,000	2,550,000	1,100,000	2,750,000
2015	108,000	270,000	100,000	250,000	1,000,000	2,500,000	300,000	750,000
2016	108,000	270,000	100,000	250,000	640,000	1,600,000	300,000	750,000
2017	108,000	270,000	100,000	250,000	1,250,000	3,125,000	300,000	750,000
2018	108,000	270,000	180,000	450,000	1,020,000	2,550,000	1,100,000	2,750,000
2019	108,000	270,000	100,000	250,000	1,000,000	2,500,000	300,000	750,000

Notes:

- For Early Summers, Summers, and Lates, the fishery reference points are scaled up annually to account for the expected contribution of unforecasted miscellaneous stocks in the MU.
- A separate management objective is identified for Cultus Lake sockeye in the salmon IFMP and includes an exploitation rate constraint that limits harvest of Late run sockeye.
- Beginning in 2010, the maximum allowable exploitation rate for Cultus sockeye was permitted to increase above 20% if conditions were expected to permit continued rebuilding of the population based on in season information on returns of Late run sockeye and potential numbers of effective spawners.

9. Interior Fraser Coho

As outlined in Chapter 5 of the Pacific Salmon Treaty (PST), allowable exploitation rates (ERs) for Canada and the U.S. are identified based on the status of Coho management units (MUs). Canada is responsible for determining the status level for Canadian MUs and setting the corresponding ER caps for both parties. Canada's management approach is driven by the status of Interior Fraser River (IFR) Coho MU, based on an integration of marine survival rates (with break points at 3% and 6%) and spawner abundance. Under this approach, ER caps are set at 20%, 30% and 45% for *Low*, *Moderate* and *Abundant* status. Canada is required to confirm the status of Interior Fraser River coho MU in March of each year.

Southern coho have been in a low productivity regime for many years. Based on marine survival rates and spawner abundance observed in the last two years, we anticipate that Interior Fraser River Coho will remain in *Low* status in 2020. Under *Low* status, Canada has managed domestic fisheries with a precautionary approach to achieve an exploitation rate cap of 3%-5%. Domestic management measures are anticipated to be similar to recent years and will be discussed through the annual process to develop the Integrated Fisheries Management Plans (IFMPs).

Status determination and corresponding ER caps are not contemplated for the Strait of Georgia and Lower Fraser MUs at this time, due to insufficient data. However, new stock assessment projects are planned to provide additional information for these MUs and could permit new methods to determine status in the future.

10. Northern BC Salmon

After experiencing near-record low returns of Coho on the North Coast in 2018, the Department implemented additional measures to reduce the overall exploitation rate of commercial fisheries in 2019. Furthermore, low catch rates in Alaskan Troll fisheries in certain Treaty defined areas triggered a 10 day closure in Northern Coho fisheries. Preliminary escapement data suggest that Northern Coho populations improved in 2019; however, ocean survival continues to be a concern for Coho returning in 2020. While it is likely the improving trends observed in 2019 were in part due to reduction in Coho exploitation rates in North Coast fisheries, additional management measures may be considered for 2020. The Department plans to consult with First Nations and stakeholders through the IFMP development process to discuss Northern Coho management actions.

The 2019 Nass and Skeena Sockeye escapements fell short of expectations, continuing a trend of increased uncertainty in both systems. This trend makes fishery planning more complex, and will require a continued precautionary approach to the management of Nass and Skeena Sockeye fisheries, particularly early in the season when in-season information is limited. The Department plans to consult with First Nations and stakeholders through the IFMP development process to discuss management of Nass and Skeena Sockeye fisheries for the 2020 season. Additional work to develop management measures for First Nations, recreational, and commercial fisheries at a range of run sizes will be discussed.

In 2018, in response to a declining trend in escapements of Northern Chinook, the Department implemented a suite of management measures to reduce the overall exploitation rates on these stocks. Additionally in both 2018 and 2019, measures were taken to provide priority access for First Nations Chinook harvests in light of uncertain returns of Skeena River Sockeye, including temporal and spatial closures. For 2019, restrictions also included an extended closure of the commercial troll fishery in Northern BC until August 20th to pass through Fraser Summer 4₁ Chinook to support Fraser First Nations FSC harvests. For 2020, preliminary Chinook data suggests that similar management measures are likely

required to address both uncertain Chinook stocks and uncertainty of Sockeye escapements. The department intends to engage First Nations and stakeholders both bilaterally and as part of the 2020 IFMP planning process to develop fishing plans that are expected to be informed by the management actions implemented in recent seasons.

11. Commercial Salmon Allocation Framework (CSAF) Demonstration Fisheries.

As part of implementing changes to the Commercial Salmon Allocation Framework (CSAF), the Department is continuing to work with First Nations Salmon Coordinating Committee (SCC) and the Commercial Salmon Advisory Board (CSAB) representatives to implement existing and review new CSAF demonstration fisheries proposals. CSAF demonstration fishery proposals are intended to provide increased flexibility for harvesters to fish their commercial salmon shares. CSAF demonstration fishery proposals are assessed through an Evaluation Framework which outlines Departmental objectives and were developed with support from the SCC and CSAB.

The Department is requesting confirmation of continued interest in existing and submission of any new demonstration fishery proposals be submitted by proponents to DFO.PacificSalmonRMT-EGRSaumondupacifique.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca and their local Fisheries Manager **no later than January 27th, 2020**. As in previous years, this is to ensure sufficient time for the Department to evaluate the proposals and provide an opportunity for feedback and discussion through the draft IFMP consultation process. Demonstration fishery proposals that are not submitted by this deadline will not be considered for the 2020 season.