

FIRST NATIONS FISHERIES COUNCIL
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

COMMUNIQUE

October 2025



Photo credit: Dennis Chau Photography
FNFC 2025 Photo Contest — Grand Prize Winner
Weaver Creek Spawning Channel

Convene - Elicit - Distill



ABOUT FIRST NATIONS FISHERIES COUNCIL OF B.C.

Fisheries and aquatic resources are foundational to First Nations' communities, culture, well-being, identity, and way of life. We work to protect aquatic resources and habitat and help First Nations build a strong, coherent voice on Pacific fisheries and aquatic resources by:



Facilitating strong province-wide collaboration



Building and maintaining First Nations capacity



Amplifying the voices of rights holders

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EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT UNIT

Message from the Executive Director

Am.ma Sa' (Good Day),

We're already in the last quarter of 2025. This past year has been filled with meaningful connections, both within the office and out in community, and I'm deeply grateful for the opportunities to work directly with Nations and partner organizations. Your continued support has helped me grow more confident in my role as Executive Director at FNFC and more grounded in my purpose to serve First Nations communities and support our fisheries.

Since stepping into the role, one of my top priorities has always been to strengthen relationships through community visits and engagement sessions. Since April of this year, my team and I have had the privilege of meeting with various First Nations and First Nation organizations including the Council of the Haida Nation, Ha'oom Fisheries Society, We Wai Kai First Nation, and the North Coast Skeena First Nations Stewardship Society. Each of these conversations have deepened my understanding on the priorities, challenges, and good work being accomplished across B.C. and has reinforced my commitment to this important work.

If you would like me to visit your community to hear your Nation's priorities and share updates on our work, please contact our First Nations Engagement Manager, Etana Tam, at etana@fnfisheriescouncil.ca, and we'll get it scheduled.

This year saw an unexpectedly strong sockeye return on the Fraser River. By season's end, the Fraser saw a total return of around 9 million sockeye. Notably, the Early Stuart run was close to 750,000—more than six times the pre-season forecast. While this year's return is a positive sign, one good year does not mean the Early Stuarts are out of danger. Moments like this remind us to remain hopeful that continued collaboration and careful management will support long-term recovery.

Our biggest annual event, the FNFC Fall Assembly, was hosted in Campbell River on October 28 and 29. Thank you to everyone who attended—it was great to see you there. We'll share a recap in the next Communique.

I remain grateful for your continued support of FNFC's work and look forward to our ongoing collaboration and engagement in the years ahead.

Hamiya (Thank You),



Stu Barnes (Kil Ts'ak)
Executive Director, FNFC



Next FNFC Council Delegate Term (2026–2028)

FNFC is now seeking nominations for First Nations Delegates to our Executive Council. The current term for Delegates ends December 31, 2025, and new or re-appointed Delegates will begin a new three-year term beginning in January 2026.

The Executive Council is comprised of Delegates appointed by B.C. First Nations in each of the **14 FNFC geographic regions**. Nominations to serve on the Executive Council are necessary to the FNFC in order to:

- provide a variety of perspectives reflecting the diversity and culture within the B.C. First Nations communities and regions;
- bring forward the perspectives from the 14 geographic regions in B.C.; and
- bring specific skills and expertise that contribute to strong fisheries management and governance for B.C. First Nations.

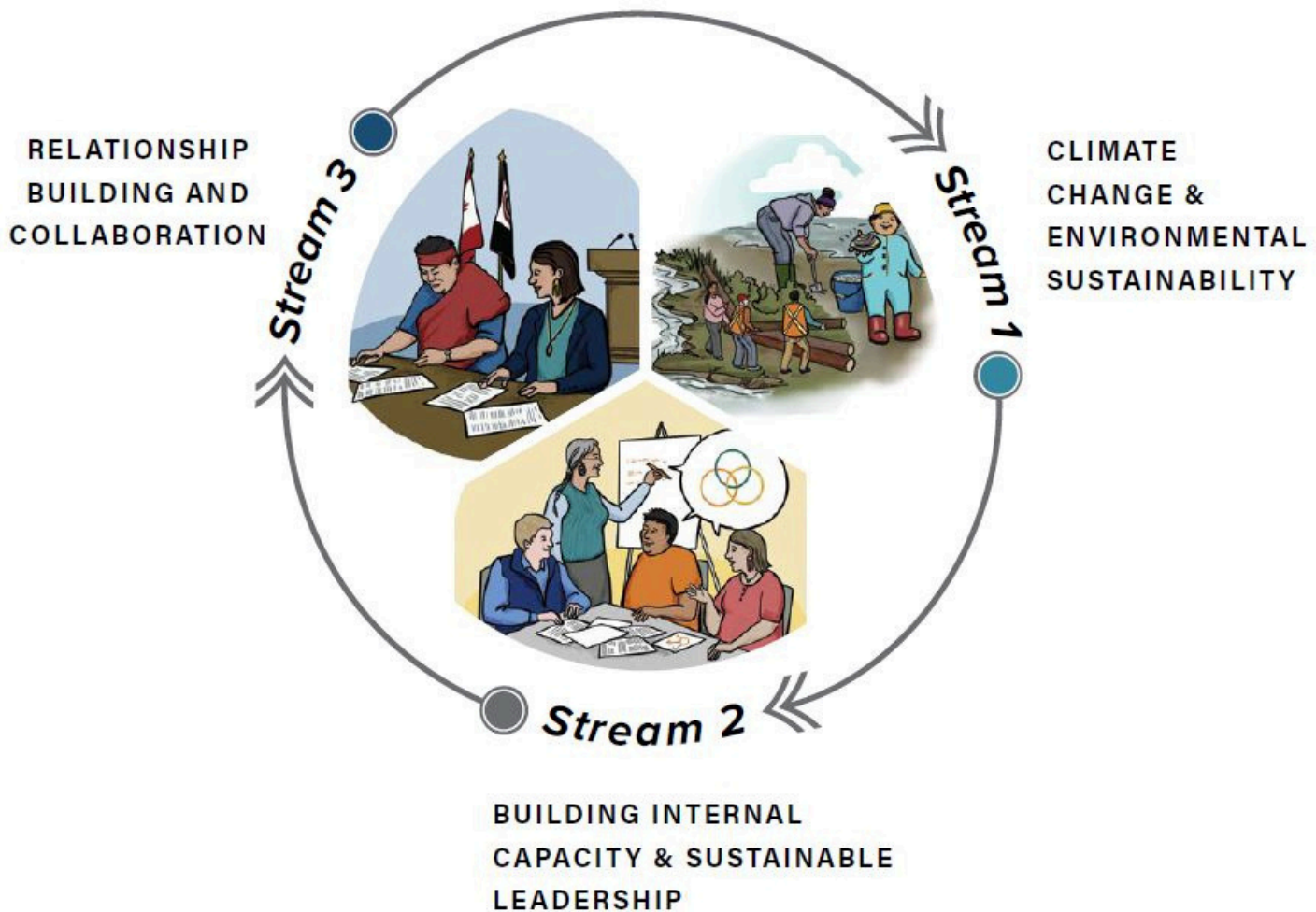
The **deadline** to submit completed nomination forms is **Friday, November 14, 2025**.

For additional information, inquiries, or to obtain the FNFC Executive Council Nomination Guidelines and Nomination Form, please contact **Etana Tam** at **etana@fnfisheriescouncil.ca**.



FNFC Strategic Plan (2025-2030)

FNFC's three streams of strategic action create a continuous loop of improvement and adaptation. Strong governance structures strengthen partnerships which in turn, enhance operational capacity and support sustainability initiatives, reinforcing governance and community trust. This circular relationship ensures that FNFC remains adaptive and responsive to the needs of First Nations communities, continuously evolving to meet the challenges of fisheries management and environmental stewardship.



The FNFC Strategic Plan (2025–2030) is now available for download on our website via [this link](#).

If you would like to receive a hard copy, please contact **Tram Lu** at [**tram@fnfisheriescouncil.ca**](mailto:tram@fnfisheriescouncil.ca).

CORPORATE SERVICES UNIT

HR Capacity-Building

We are excited to share updates on the ongoing HR-related capacity-building initiatives aimed at standardizing internal HR processes to support efficiency and enhance productivity.

- **Employee Handbook:** With the support of MNP, the FNFC Employee Handbook is now complete! We request all staff to review the handbook, confirm their understanding, and return it to HR for record-keeping.
- **Compensation Philosophy Review:** This initiative aims to standardize overall FNFC compensation philosophy and better manage employee performance. We have completed the first step of standardizing internal job descriptions. We are currently working on establishing and confirming both internal and external benchmarks, which include overall compensation – salary, benefits, and other benefits.

To further support Corporate Services' capacity building initiatives, we are also pleased to announce that we have begun updating our existing Payroll systems. With the help of ADP, CSU is currently in the process of upgrading our existing payroll and related HR modules. The review will enable us to automate our current payroll process, improve workforce management, reporting, and analytics. The upgraded system will also allow a more user-friendly application.

Our goal is to strengthen FNFC's internal processes as we move forward. We strive to ensure that we continue to add value-added services that empower FNFC staff at every level of the organization.



Technology Investments

CSU team is currently working on several technology upgrades to address potential operational risks and ensure that our future organizational needs are supported:

- **Expansion of our current Electronic Funds Transfer (EFTs):** To mitigate operational risks coming from the current and ongoing Canada Post strikes, the CSU team is currently working on expanding our Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) capabilities to cover all vendor payments made via checks. We are currently in discussion with RBC to update our current access to a more efficient and automated electronic funds transfer system.
- **Accounting Software Upgrade (Sage):** To enable a more efficient financial reporting process and establish a more robust and up-to-date financial system, the CSU team is currently in discussion to update our current access to Sage to a cloud-based solution. This upgrade enables a more seamless data integration across different system platforms and also increases capacity for stronger financial reporting.

We strive to ensure that our processes and infrastructure effectively support and serve FNFC's organizational needs.



POLICY & FISH MANAGEMENT UNIT

Engagement & Collaboration for Pacific Salmon

Update on First Nations Caucus & Salmon Coordinating Committee Planning Over Summer 2025

FNFC continues to advance its collaboration with regional First Nations bodies across British Columbia, DFO, the First Nations Caucus (FNC), and the Pacific Salmon Commission (PSC) as preparations for the next round of Pacific Salmon Treaty (PST) renegotiations intensify. These negotiations, set to take place between 2026 and 2028, will shape the management of Pacific salmon for the next decade, with the revised articles taking effect in 2029.

Building on the PST regional engagement workshops delivered in 2024–25 in partnership with the FNC and with supplemental support from DFO, FNFC will continue to deliver initial sessions to regions, First Nations, and regional bodies that were not reached last year, while also moving into the next phase of engagement.

The next phase includes returning to areas where workshops were previously held to address the more technical issues raised in the first round as well as hosting a dedicated Chinook session. FNFC will co-develop and deliver these sessions with regional technical staff from the FNC, ensuring an iterative and responsive approach that consistently informs Canada’s mandate heading into negotiations.

Key activities already scheduled include a co-hosted session with the Fraser Salmon Management Council (FSMC) in Kamloops on November 24, a Chinook-specific session on December 12, and two additional workshops targeted before the end of the calendar year. Further sessions will follow in early 2025 across the province.

FNFC is also preparing a technical paper that analyzes PST chapters in detail to further develop the positions of the First Nations Caucus. This document draws on feedback from engagement sessions and the expertise of its authors, and is intended for delivery to the Caucus ahead of the January 2025 PSC session.



Photo credit: Cathy Kam Photography

Meanwhile, the FNC is revising its Alaskan Engagement Strategy, recognizing that the absence of Alaskan Tribes from the Memorandum of Understanding signed with the Washington and Oregon Tribes in February remains a challenge to achieving a fully unified Indigenous voice across the PSC.

The Salmon Coordinating Committee (SCC) will meet before year-end on October 6, November 5, and November 6, and will continue its work in the new year. Its current focus includes co-management, harvest transformation, and IFMP reforms that focus on better representing the sociocultural importance of salmon to First Nations in British Columbia.

These efforts position First Nations in British Columbia to advance sovereignty and self-determination in fisheries, strengthen representation at both national and international levels, and amplify a more unified Indigenous voice on salmon. Through engagement, analysis, and collaboration, FNFC is strengthening the foundation for co-management that reflects the importance of salmon to First Nations. This approach enhances First Nations' role in decision-making and reinforces collective responsibility for the conservation and sustainable management of Pacific salmon for future generations.

Legislation and Fisheries Policy

Salmon Allocation Policy Review

The 1999 Salmon Allocation Policy is DFO's set of principles used to guide the allocation of Pacific salmon amongst First Nations, commercial, and recreational harvest groups. In 2018, as a result of the Ahousaht decision, the policy was found to be an unjustified infringement of five Nuu-chah-nulth Nations' (Ahousaht, Ehattesaht, Hesquiaht, Mowachaht/Muchalaht, and Tla-o-qui-aht) Aboriginal rights to fish and sell fish. Specifically, the 1999 SAP accords priority to the recreational fishery over the five Nations' rights-based sale fishery for Chinook and Coho salmon. As a result, DFO was mandated to undertake a review and update of the SAP to correct the infringement. First Nations participants are clear in their expectation that DFO will undertake this review to address the unjustified infringements in the SAP to First Nations rights-based fisheries, and to modernize the policy to align with Canada's commitment to reconciliation and UNDRIP. The SAP Review has been extended to March 2026, when DFO is anticipated to submit recommendations to the Minister for their approval.

FNFC has been working with First Nations participants (SAP Working Group) in this review to analyze identified issues with the 1999 SAP and draft recommendations to address key issues raised by First Nations about allocation issues related to the policy. In 2024/25, FNFC hosted two Policy Forums to share key updates about the SAP Review process, and draft recommendations that were developed with the SAP Working Group. Efforts continue to collaborate with DFO and the Multi-Party Working Group to include these recommendations, it will be important for First Nations broadly to provide input to DFO during the broad consultation stages of this review, scheduled for November/December 2025. To support First Nations bilateral engagements with DFO, FNFC is working with the SAP Working Group to develop a SAP Review briefing package and plan to circulate to First Nations in B.C. broadly in October 2025. FNFC also encourages First Nations to contact FNFC and/or SAP Working Group participants for insight and perspectives into the SAP Review process.

For more information about current policy initiatives, please refer to the FNFC website or contact

Janson Wong at janson@fnfisheriescouncil.ca.



The Whole of Aquaculture Action Plan

The First Nations Fisheries Council (FNFC) is pleased to announce that the **Whole of Aquaculture Action Plan** is ready to be shared with First Nations through upcoming engagement sessions. Developed over more than 15 years of engagement with First Nations across BC, the plan builds on the vision set out in the 2007 B.C. First Nations Fisheries Action Plan and the conversations from the 2024 Whole of Aquaculture Forum.

Aquaculture in B.C. continues to evolve, creating new opportunities for First Nations to lead and shape the future of the sector. The Action Plan offers a roadmap for First Nations to ensure aquaculture develops in ways that reflect their priorities.

At it's core, the plan is built on the Whole of Aquaculture approach — seeing aquaculture as an interconnected system rather than a collection of separate elements. It's not about a single facility or species, but about ecosystems, economies, governance, and communities. It looks beyond production to licensing, infrastructure, markets, jobs, and cultural restoration — recognizing that decisions in one area create ripple effects across the sector.

The plan ties these elements together — linking governance, infrastructure, markets, workforce, and value-added opportunities into a single roadmap that supports thriving, self-determined, Nation-led aquaculture.

The vision is simple: a First Nations-led, sovereign, sustainable, and inclusive aquaculture sector — one that protects culture and ecosystems while creating long-term opportunity. This vision is advanced through five interdependent objectives: legislation and policy, culture and community health, environmental stewardship, market access, and sustainable funding & capacity.



This isn't just a paper — it's a call to action. The plan aims to remove systemic barriers, embed First Nations leadership across the system, and provides recommendations and defined roles for Canada, BC, First Nations, and partners to make this vision real.

If you are interested in learning more, FNFC will be hosting a virtual webinar on Tuesday, November 4, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM to walk through the Action Plan and discuss aquaculture priorities with interested First Nations.

➔ **Register to attend the webinar via this [link](#).**

For more information, please contact **Mike Gray** at mike@fnfisheriescouncil.ca.



Photo credit: Tess Weaver

HABITAT & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION UNIT

Cumulative Effects of Marine Shipping, Wetlands, and Knowledge Sharing Forum.

The Habitat and Environmental Protections (HEP) team continues to advance several initiatives that support safeguarding habitat and responding to environmental threats.

Cumulative Effects of Marine Shipping (CEMS)

HEP is now supporting Transport Canada (TC) with the Cumulative Effects of Marine Shipping (CEMS) initiative under the Oceans Protection Plan. Through this initiative, FNFC convenes a committee of First Nations participants – the Ship Movement and Vessel Management Coordinating Committee (VMCC) – to guide and contribute to the work of CEMS in the south coast of B.C. The last few years have focused on assessing the cumulative effects of marine shipping in the region, and now the VMCC, FNFC, and TC are conducting a review of the draft assessment products (e.g., a StoryMap and technical report). For the remainder of the fiscal year, work will transition from assessment to decision-making. This will include sharing the results of the CEMS assessment with First Nations who have not been involved to date, as well as with external stakeholders. A draft list of mitigation and management recommendations is anticipated by the end of this fiscal year.

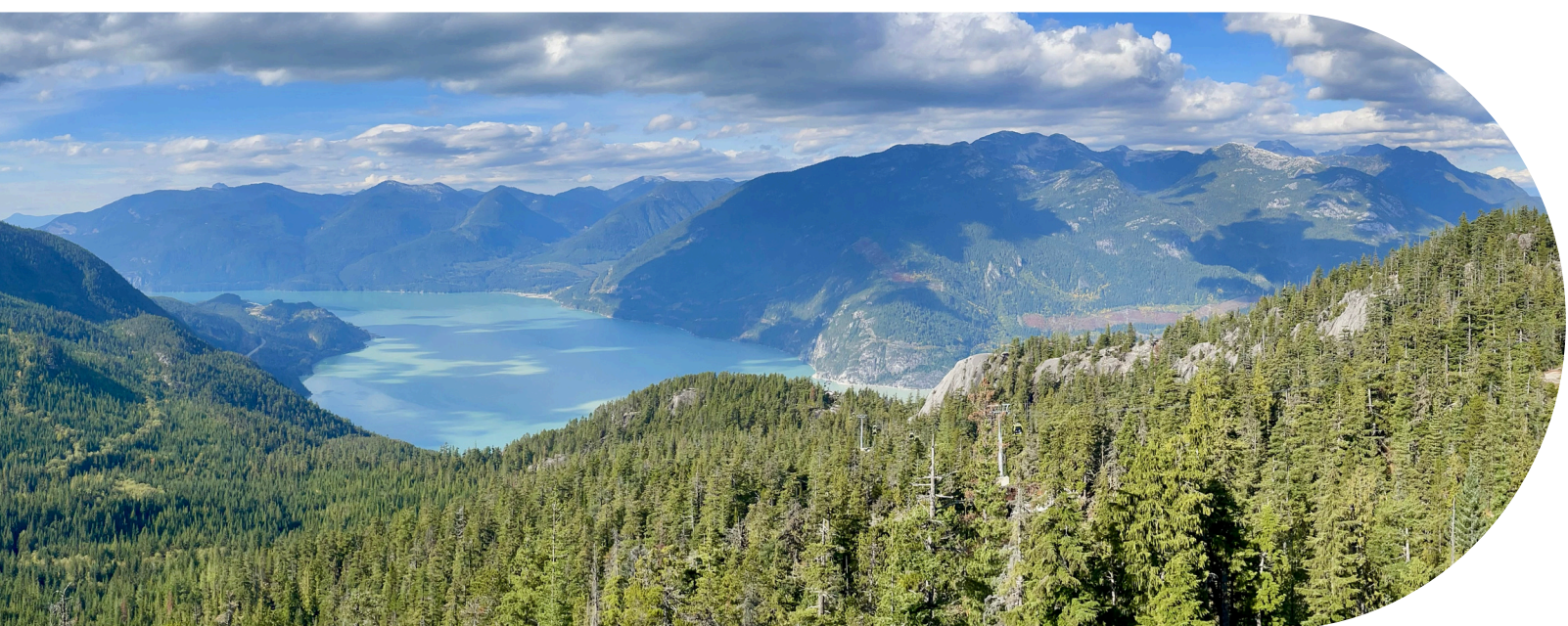


Photo credit: Kelfon

Wetlands

FNFC is working with the Ministry of Water, Land, and Resource Stewardship to better understand existing wetland policy and First Nations-led wetland stewardship in B.C. Several activities are underway to support this work. First, an environmental scan of current First Nations-led wetland stewardship work, along with a literature review and gap analysis of existing wetland policies was conducted over the summer of 2025. A survey was also sent out to Tier 1 participants to help identify First Nations-led wetland stewardship activities, priorities, and challenges across B.C. Follow-up calls with interested respondents will be scheduled throughout October and a province-wide Tier 1 engagement session will be convened virtually in November. FNFC will summarize the findings and recommendations that have emerged from each of these activities into a report to share with Tier 1 participants and the Province of B.C.

Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program (FFHPP) – Knowledge Sharing Forum

FNFC has worked with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada for the last three years to support engagement under the Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program (FFHPP). This year, FNFC is planning to host a Tier 1 Knowledge Sharing Forum to provide an opportunity for relationship building and knowledge sharing between Nations.

Updates on the Water Table and Watershed Security Fund

Watershed Security Fund Grants Program Intake 3 open from October 6 to November 17, 2025

The First Nations Water Caucus (FNWC) brings together up to 17 First Nations regional and technical delegates from major watersheds across British Columbia to discuss and identify shared strategic priorities and interests related to fresh water and watershed security.

The FNWC meets at the B.C. - First Nations Water Table (Water Table) with representatives from multiple Province of B.C. Ministries with responsibility for fresh water. Over the last few years, the Water Table has co-developed the Watershed Security Strategy (WSS), which was approved by cabinet in 2024. Currently, the Province is not releasing the WSS but rather focusing on implementation of their priority actions. The FNWC is deeply disappointed that the WSS is not being released by the Province and is currently strategizing next steps to share this work with First Nations.

On March 6th, 2023, the Province of B.C. announced a \$100 million endowment to establish the Watershed Security Fund (WSF). The FNWC – with FNFC as the secretariat – and the Real Estate Foundation of B.C. (REFBC), are working together to create the initial structure of the WSF, provide the interim stewardship, and to support the co-development of a permanent entity that will house the WSF in the long term. The WSF supports projects and initiatives that prioritize the health of our waterways, centre First Nations rights and knowledge, and reinforce lasting relationships to ensure healthy watersheds and thriving communities for generations. The initial \$100 million endowment generates a \$3-5 million annual baseline budget for grants and programs.

The WSF has completed two rounds of grants intakes over 2024-2025, and has funded 54 projects, granting \$12 million into communities with the most recent round of grants going out June 2025. Demand for watershed security funding highly exceeds the available funds, with \$75 million in asks across the first two grants' intakes. A new Growing the Fund Working Group will begin to meet this fall to focus on developing avenues and relationships for growing the WSF to better meet the annual demand for funding.

The next grants intake for the WSF is open between October 6th to November 17th. Please contact **Jenna Duncan** at jenna@fnfisheriescouncil.ca if you are interested in learning more about the Watershed Security Fund.

Drought Table

In 2024, FNFC convened a bi-weekly Tier 1 Drought Table in response to the growing concerns from First Nations on emergency drought impacts on fish and fish habitat. FNFC reconvened this drought table in June 2025 with the purpose of providing a space for First Nations and First Nations organizations to come together and communicate broadly and collaborate on emergency drought issues within their territories. The Drought Table finished for the season in October 2025, and a final report will be released in the coming months.

For more information on the Drought Table please reach out to **Madison Rattai** at madison@fnfisheriescouncil.ca.

PARTNERSHIPS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS UNIT

Update on the Trilateral Salmon Accord

Building collaborative processes to advance recovery of Wild Pacific Salmon

In June 2024, the Trilateral Salmon Accord was signed between the Province of B.C., DFO, and FNFC as secretariat for B.C. First Nations. This agreement established a formal commitment between all three parties to work collaboratively on a joint action plan to save wild Pacific salmon. Efforts are now underway to implement this trilateral process.

FNFC has been working throughout the summer to fill delegate seats at the Wild Salmon Steering Committee, a regionally representative First Nations caucus of technical salmon experts and knowledge holders. The Wild Salmon Steering Committee will play a critical role in establishing the governance model for the Trilateral process, setting First Nations' salmon recovery priorities, and providing direct input and advice to the Tier 2 Trilateral Salmon Table alongside representatives from the Province of B.C. and DFO. The Tier 1 committee table is not yet full, so First Nations organizations interested in learning more about the process are encouraged to reach out to FNFC.

On August 26th, 2025, FNFC convened the first meeting of the Wild Salmon Steering Committee. The initial priorities of the committee are to finalize Tier 1 Terms of Reference and approve a governance model for the Trilateral process. A second follow-up meeting was held on October 20th, 2025.

The first meeting of the Tier 2 Trilateral Salmon Table, comprising leadership from First Nations, DFO, and BC, will take place in late November. The Trilateral Table aims to develop a Joint Action Plan for the recovery of wild Pacific salmon by March 2026.

Please contact **Tony Graydon** at antonio@fnfisheriescouncil.ca for any inquiries regarding the Trilateral Salmon Accord.



VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY:

PETE ERICKSON



Photo by Colin Macgillivray

Pete Erickson

This year's relatively strong Fraser River sockeye salmon returns was highlighted by a very pleasant surprise: nearly 750,000 Early Stuart sockeye and more than 9 million sockeye overall. The strong Early Stuart sockeye returns were remarkable, given the decades of rebuilding efforts led by First Nations and cultural importance that Early Stuart sockeye have for many First Nations throughout the Fraser and marine approach watershed.

To reflect on this year's Early Stuart returns, FNFC spoke with **Pete Erickson**, *Hereditary Chief of the Nak'azdli Whut'en First Nation* and *Hatchery Manager at Nak'azdli Whut'en*, to learn more about the cultural importance of Early Stuarts to many First Nations, his community being able to fish and supporting cultural practices, and what it means for future rebuilding efforts.

Q

Over 750,000 Early Stuart sockeye returned this year, about 10 times more than the pre-season forecast. Can you describe what that meant to you and your community?

"There was real excitement at seeing the fish in these numbers. We did get an opportunity to take a few fish for the elders, and it was also a sort of confirmation of the work we've been doing for five years to bring the salmon back to this region."



September delivery for Nak'azdli Elders by Pete E.

Q

Can you describe this year's fishery for Nak'azdli Whut'en, and being able to harvest Early Stuart for the community after many years of not being able to fish for conservation reasons?

"People were very reluctant to go fishing. They really were. Even though we assured them that fish were available, there was still reluctance to fish the Early Stuart run. We did get some people fishing, but overall it was not 100% effort. People were still worried about affecting the run."

Q

While this year's return is a positive sign, one year doesn't mean Early Stuarts are out of danger. From your perspective, what still needs to happen to make sure these fish are secure for future generations?

"From our perspective, and based on what we have done, we have lobbied up and down the Fraser River and worked to align First Nations around the need for rebuilding and for holding off fishing pressure. It will take everyone's effort to raise these spawning numbers, and we are going to continue to do what we have done. We are also participating in the Early Stuart Rebuilding Initiative and inviting Terri Ridley at DFO to work with us. We will stay the course. There is a lot more work to be done, and our community is now even more committed. We are hiring more people and community members to support our work and our hatchery program, which is entirely self-funded with no government funding involved. Our commitment is to keep going cautiously and hope the trend continues."



Joint Effort - Working Together

Q

The return of Early Stuart sockeye in big numbers has significance not only for Nak'azdli Whut'en but for First Nations throughout the Fraser and marine approach areas. How do you see this year's success influencing relationships, cooperation, or shared strategies among communities?

"I really think about the joy all up and down the Fraser, and I think it gives us an opportunity to reach out and talk to other First Nations communities about the work, what is working and what is not for them. I also think about other communities around the Quesnel area, which are heavily reliant on Early Stuarts. It is an opportunity now to reach out, see what they would like to see, and come together to get consensus on the approach to rebuilding."

Q

For communities that have long had to wait for sustainable returns, what emotional or cultural significance does this year bring, especially in relation to First Fish ceremonies and traditional practices?

“Actually, we didn't hold a First Fish ceremony this year. It was kind of weird because we did it internally, but it wasn't official. We didn't have the opportunity to formally celebrate because we weren't expecting fish that early. So that opportunity was missed, but for us, this was a real wake-up call. One of the things that we found out between the Early Stuart and Late Stuart runs was an opportunity to fish what we needed for the community. We could have fished a hundred thousand fish, but we didn't; we actually, literally, could not do it. We haven't fished for so long that we didn't have the capacity to fish, and the community has lost a lot of that knowledge to catch for ourselves. Thinking back, we could have taken better advantage of this year's return, so it was a wake-up call, a big wake-up call.”

Q

Before we wrap up, is there anything else you'd like to share—your story, thoughts, reflections, or messages that you feel are important for them to hear?

“I really think that one of the things First Nations are not accounting for—and that we keep hearing other organizations refer to—is how much money they say can be made from salmon, how many dollars they say salmon contribute to the Canadian economy. Our reality is very different. My community suffers up here, literally in silence, with a huge fentanyl crisis. Culturally, we are two generations of people who have not fished in a cultural way, so we have lost 25 to 30 years of being able to practice our culture and save our people. We cannot even tell people, ‘Go, go, stop drinking, stop drugging, and come home and practice culture,’ because we do not have it here. The simple reason is we do not have that run. That salmon run represented probably 50 to 60 percent of our diet and 50 percent of our employment, and we have not had it for 30 years.”



At Nak'azdli Hatchery: 306,000 Early Stuart eggs in care

FNFC extends our sincere thanks to Pete Erickson for the interview and his valuable perspective. As we celebrate this year's Early Stuart returns, we are mindful that one year's success does not mean the work is done and that there is still a long journey ahead to rebuild thriving, sustainable wild Pacific salmon stocks throughout B.C. Many wild Pacific salmon stocks continue to be threatened by cumulative impacts throughout their life cycles and are in need of urgent protection and recovery efforts to reverse the decline. FNFC raises our hands to the important work that many First Nations communities are leading and to their efforts to ensure salmon will be available and abundant for present and future generations.



As Pete Erickson shared above, his community is navigating a serious fentanyl crisis—an issue compounded by the ongoing decline of salmon, a species central to the health and well-being of many First Nations. Over the summer, FNFC engaged with participating Nations through interviews for our “Salmon and Wellbeing” project. The purpose of this work is to better understand how the loss of salmon is affecting the mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual balance within communities, and to highlight the deep interconnections among cultural identity, food security, and ecological health.

FNFC is using the insights and stories shared through these conversations to prepare a report and related materials that communicate these lived experiences to decision-makers and the broader public. This work aims to strengthen the case for sustained investment in salmon recovery and community-led resilience initiatives. Once the report is finalized, FNFC will return it to participating Nations for their own use and sharing as they see fit.



Third Annual ISF/FNFC Save Our Salmon Golf Tournament

📺 Watch the recap video linked [here](#) | 📷 View the event photos linked [here](#)



Held on July 21 at the University Golf Club, this year's tournament was our **most successful yet**.

Key highlights include:

- Attendance grew from 100 to 180 participants, making it a powerful day of connection, awareness and action.
- Over \$50,000 in net proceeds were raised for the ISF Educational Fund, an emerging initiative aimed at supporting Indigenous youth in becoming the stewards of tomorrow.
- The Royal Bank of Canada joined as Presenting Sponsor, paving the way for long term collaboration.
- 30 sponsors supported the event, including Musqueam Capital Corp, TD, CN Rail, Coast Capital, BC Golf, and Wei Wai Kum First Nation. Our network continues to grow not just in size and speed but also in diversity.



Indigenous Stewardship Fund

(The charitable entity of the FNFC)



Salmon Resiliency Fund 2025 Intake Update

We received a record number of applications from Indigenous communities, with funding requests totalling over \$18 million for Indigenous-led salmon restoration projects. The final list of grantees will be published on our website by the end of the year.

Growing Network

We have welcomed several new sponsors to our office following this year's event, all eager to explore ways to strengthen partnerships beyond the golf tournament and support Indigenous-led environmental initiatives through our grant making programs.

Key highlights include:

- A \$100,000 grant from the RBC Foundation is helping us fund more on-the-ground projects.
- CN Rail confirmed \$10,000 through their Indigenous Employee Resource Committee towards ISF's Salmon Resiliency Fund Program.





FNFC Communique - October 2025