

Location: The Mill Coffee Boardroom, 1761 Comox Ave, Comox BC V9M 3M2

*An online attendance option is also available through MS Teams.

Online option: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Date: February 8, 2024

Time: 6:30 pm

Call to Order: 6:30 pm

1. Introductions and establishment of voting members (5 min)
2. SFAB code of conduct discussion (5 min)
3. Additions to the agenda

Old Business

1. Review and approval of previous meeting minutes
2. Review of Action Items
3. Previous meetings motions

New Business

1. Review of Area 14 Questions to DFO 2024 (attached)
2. Hatchery updates
 - I. Oyster River
 - II. Puntledge River (chum fishery)
 - III. Qualicum
3. Chinook 2024 IFMP planning (refer to DFO Questions document) (George Bates)
 - Review of DFO letter (Mark)
 - Chinook stock of concern escapements, ER and status (see screen shots) (George Bates)
 - Review of DNA sampling in Area 14 stocks of concern encounters (Mark)
 - Mix stock Area (April May motion) (Steve)
 - Near Shore 2 per day area (Mark)
4. Coho 2024 IFMP planning (see DFO Questions document) (George Bates)
 - Review of DFO letter (Mark)
 - I. IFR Coho above Limit Reference Point (LRP) new opportunities?
 - II. DFO reference to increasing IFR Coho ER
 - I. Puntledge River? (Mark)
 - II. Qualicum? (Mark)
 - III. Oyster River (Mark)
 - IV. Mixed Stock Area (September and any additional opportunities) (Mark)
5. Groundfish

- I. Yelloweye
- II. Halibut
- 6. Motions from the floor (see DFO questions document)
- 7. C&P updates
- 8. Round Table (time permitting)

Adjourn: 8:30 pm

Attachments:

- 1. 2024 Spring Regional Recreational Update (Provided before the meeting)
- 2. 2023 Spring meeting minutes

Area 14 Coho Motion (Nick)

Whereas Area 14 has significant returns of Coho with some rivers having surpluses which are being sold and

Whereas the majority of the streams in Area 14 have some form of enhancement therefore

Be it resolved That Area 14 be open to 4 marked Coho per day June 1st to Dec, 31st,

Area 14 Coho 2024 Motion (George Bates)

Whereas Area 14 has significant returns of Coho with some rivers having surpluses which are being sold and

Whereas IFR Coho are above the Limit Reference Point (LRP) so no recovery plan is required under Species At Risk Act (SARA) and

Whereas the US and Can are not using nor planning to use their IFR Coho ER allocations for SC Coho and

Whereas the majority of the streams in Area 14 have some form of enhancement and

Whereas DFO planning letter suggests Department is exploring an increase in overall exploitation above the current 3-5% domestic target, while still falling under the 10% harvest cap described in the Pacific Salmon Treaty and

Whereas DFO science showed significant straying of Coho within Area 14 and other DFO research shows ER of 30% or less would not inhibit a stock's ability to rebuild. These factors should allow for DFO to move off the 3-5% self imposed ER threshold and allow for Canadian fisheries planning to move towards the 10% ER level therefore;

Be it resolved That Area 14 be open to 4 marked Coho per day June 1st to Dec, 31st, 1 of which can be unmarked Aug 15th to Dec 31st in the **“Terminal Area Shoreline Area”** as described by the Area 14 SFAC.

Further, Be it Resolved if not approved, that DFO provide the rational and what the ER impact would be on IFR Coho and SC ECVI Coho CU stocks as proposed in this motion.

Note not all unmarked Coho are un-enhanced/wild.