

**Summary Notes:**  
***Skeena Salmon***  
***Habitat Meeting***  
**Smithers, BC**  
**December 3, 2009**

**Prepared by the Bulkley Valley Research Centre  
and Dovetail Consulting Inc.**

# Table of Contents

<b>1. Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2. Workshop Rationale, Scope and Objectives</b>	<b>1</b>
2.1 Workshop Rationale	1
2.2 Workshop Objectives	1
2.3 Scope of Discussions	2
<b>3. Workshop Results</b>	<b>3</b>
3.1 Presentation: Context & Background	3
3.2 Initial Comments from Participants	4
3.3 Discussion: Toward Collaboration in the Skeena Watershed	7
3.3.1 Assumptions	7
3.3.2 Challenges	8
3.3.3 Opportunities	8
3.3.4 Critical Success Factors	8
3.3.5 Design Criteria	9
3.4 Designing For Effective Collaboration	9
3.4.1 Potential Objectives for Collaboration	9
3.4.2 Clarification of Goals, Objectives and Strategies	10
3.5 Discussion: Moving Ahead with a 'Skeena Habitat Project'	11
3.5.1 Building Support & Encouraging Buy In	11
3.5.2 Relationship to Skeena Watershed Initiative	11
3.6 Next Steps: Skeena Habitat Project Working Group	11
3.6.1 Composition of Working Group	11
3.6.2 Interim Funding Support	11
3.6.3 Tasks for Working Group	12
3.6.4 Other Initiatives	12
<b>4. Appendices</b>	<b>13</b>
4.1 Summary of Evaluation Forms	13
4.2 Participants List	15

# Summary Notes: Skeena Salmon Habitat Workshop Smithers, December 3, 2009

## 1. Introduction

This document presents summary notes from a one-day workshop exploring the potential for future collaboration in the Skeena watershed on issues related to habitat management. The workshop was convened by the Bulkley Valley Centre for Natural Resources Research and Management (the 'Bulkley Valley Research Centre'), with assistance from the Driftwood Foundation and the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, and was held at the Driftwood Lodge, Smithers, BC on December 3, 2009.

These notes have been prepared by the facilitator for the event, Julian Griggs of Dovetail Consulting Inc. in collaboration with the Bulkley Valley Research Centre.

## 2. Workshop Rationale, Scope and Objectives

### 2.1 Workshop Rationale

In September 2009, the Bulkley Valley Research Centre hosted the Skeena Salmon Habitat Conference, the first event of its kind to bring together a diverse set of stakeholders from throughout the Skeena watershed. The conference created important linkages and garnered such a positive response that the Bulkley Valley Research Centre, with support from the Driftwood Foundation and the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, immediately arranged a follow up workshop on Dec. 3, 2009 to continue the conference's momentum and discuss what next steps should be taken toward effectively managing this important ecosystem.

A key component of the conference's discussion surrounded the recommendations put forward earlier in the year by the B.C. Pacific Salmon Forum. The recommendations, which were requested by Premier Gordon Campbell and took three years and \$5 million taxpayer dollars to complete, have not yet received a response from the provincial government. The forum's final report calls for an ecosystem-based approach to managing resources in watershed and marine environments and the creation of an independent regulatory authority to oversee this management.

The Skeena Salmon Habitat Workshop was intended to build on progress made during the recent conference by reviewing its key outcomes, furthering discussion about establishing the Skeena as a pilot for watershed-based management, identifying challenges to this goal, and discussing the possibility of establishing a working group. Invited participants for the workshop include representation from various levels of government, First Nations, research consultants and NGOs.

### 2.2 Workshop Objectives

The objectives of the December 3, 2009 workshop were as follows:

1. Review the key outcomes from the September 2009 Skeena Salmon Habitat Conference, and the potential opportunities that emerged from discussions at that event.
2. Clarify support for establishing the Skeena as a pilot for coordinated watershed-wide adaptive management that ensures the coexistence of healthy, functioning aquatic habitat with human activities, consistent with the intent of recommendations in the BC Pacific Salmon Forum's 2009 *Final Report*.
3. Identify the challenges and opportunities related to such a collaborative initiative in the Skeena watershed, key assumptions, and critical success factors.
4. Identify the key design attributes of an effective collaborative initiative in the Skeena watershed.

5. Develop an initial outline of steps needed to advance discussions related to such a collaborative initiative, including:
  - Initial indications of interest and commitment from organizations participating in this workshop;
  - Key tasks and deliverables, including the preparation of a more detailed written 'prospectus' if needed;
  - Mechanisms to coordinate these efforts, including the possible establishment of a 'Working Group';
  - Definition of roles and responsibilities; and,
  - Timelines and milestones.

### **2.3 Scope of Discussions**

The workshop was intended as an opportunity to advance discussions related to collaboration leading to improved salmon habitat management in the Skeena watershed. This event was not intended for:

- Detailed analysis of any particular presentations or case studies presented at the Skeena Salmon Habitat Conference;
- Prioritization of research initiatives or other projects;
- Evaluation of current habitat management approaches in the Skeena Watershed;
- Discussion of resource allocation issues.

### 3. Workshop Results

The following sections provide a brief summary of key discussion points from each of the sessions during the workshop.

#### 3.1 Presentation: Context & Background

##### Richard Overstall, Babine Watershed Monitoring Trust

On behalf of the workshop organizers, Richard Overstall offered initial comments on the history of community engagement in the Skeena region, highlighting the recurring themes of:

- Strong local/regional identity and solidarity, which has allowed community members to talk about challenging issues and face disputes together;
- A track record of innovative and critical thinking, which has enabled community members to tackle challenges in new ways; and
- Courage, which has enabled community members to address difficult issues as they arise.

Richard's comments focused on the following:

- Aboriginal community engagement, dating back at least to opposition to the creation of reserves in the 1920's, and including more recently a series of high profile legal cases originating in the NW including *Calder*, and others;
- Work of local environmental and community groups (rather than larger ENGOs that play more prominent roles in other parts of BC), who over the years have engaged constructively on issues such as the Houston pulpmill, the Kemano completion project (1980's), disputes over forest practices, the creation of the Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board, the Babine Watershed Monitoring Trust, the Skeena Watershed Initiative, coal bed methane and fish farms; and,
- Involvement of public servants who have played a significant role in land use and resource management issues in the region, including the creation of the Bulkley Valley Research Centre in 2002.

Richard also explained the scope and rationale for the September 2009 Skeena Habitat Conference, which included discussions related to:

- Current institutional arrangements for salmon and habitat management in the Skeena, and the challenges of poor linkages among them;
- Examples of collaboration that are occurring at the sub-watershed scale, and often 'beneath the radar'; and,
- Challenges to be faced in the future, including the prospect of climate change and the need to maintain the diversity and abundance of salmon in the watershed.

##### Don Morgan, Bulkley Valley Research Centre

Don Morgan also highlighted the role played by the Bulkley Valley Research Centre, in filling a gap in service delivery for government, particularly in the areas of research. He explained that the Bulkley Valley Research Centre also anticipates that they must shift their role to a degree, moving from more limited engagement in research to adopt a broader perspective on collaboration, and approaches that allow for resilience and adaptation.

##### Questions & Discussion

Initial comments and questions following the opening presentations included the following:

- What is the *object* of collaboration in the Skeena watershed? And *who is in charge* of the decisions that need to be made in the watershed? It will be important to understand who has authority/responsibility. In addition, stakeholders, communities and others who share a commitment to improved salmon habitat management need to know what roles they can play and what they can each do.

- It will be important to distinguish precise *outcomes* (in terms of habitat improvements, changes in management arrangements, or other things that will be different as a result of our efforts) on one hand, from the *process* of collaboration itself, that may have many additional benefits but which does not necessarily lead to changes on the ground.
- There is a perceived gap related to salmon habitat management in the Skeena—the lack of ability to manage resources in a manner that reflects public interests because of the complexity of the management systems in place. It is not always clear whether that gap has been created partially intentionally (on the assumption that the community will act to fill the gap) or inadvertently.

### 3.2 Initial Comments from Participants

Individual participants were invited to offer comments on behalf of themselves or their respective organizations, as follows:

- Initial indications of support for establishing the Skeena as a habitat pilot; and,
- Key issues and questions that need to be addressed today.

The comments from each individual summarized below do not represent formal commitments on behalf of any particular agency or organization.

#### Tom Pendray (DFO)

- DFO faces significant resource constraints, as well as limitations because of legislation and policy (such as provisions under the *Fisheries Act*). DFO tends to work on a project-by-project basis, and it is challenging for the agency to address cumulative effects.
- DFO can assist/enable and participate in multi-stakeholder planning initiatives, but cannot run them, as this frequently trespasses into areas of provincial mandate.
- There are limited resources for stock or habitat monitoring. Recent discussions that remote sensing will be needed to monitor areas such as the Skeena watershed. Support and assistance from others is needed therefore for effective monitoring.
- It is acknowledged that additional planning would be beneficial, particularly related to fish and water (for example, land use zoning related to future power projects).

#### Margaret (Lakelse)

- The community organized to develop the Lakelse Community Sockeye Recovery Plan. This effort involved local residents, First Nations, and provincial and federal agencies.
- The pooling of resources allowed a Coordinator to be hired. This role was critical for success.
- The community society that has since been formed has also developed a watershed management plan.
- Community groups in the Skeena need a clearer sense of what is actually achievable, and where things are headed.
- Unfortunately, despite their efforts, Lakelse sockeye have not yet recovered.

#### Ivan Thompson (Moore Foundation)

- Major development projects have not had success in the Skeena watershed achieving the necessary social license to operate. Is there an alternative to conflict on a 'valley-by-valley' basis?
- For an effective watershed-wide collaborative initiative, what 'horse should we hitch our cart to,' to create leverage for our efforts:
  - Water Act reform?
  - Wild Salmon Policy?
  - Scaling up sub-watershed scale initiatives?

#### Nicky Skuce (ForestEthics)

- At the community level, there is growing fatigue over constantly saying 'no'
- Enbridge pipeline, coal bed methane, and Independent Power projects were not anticipated in earlier planning discussions.
- Climate change is also a new challenge.
- The need to conserve and maintain wild salmon is a 'unifying' issue in the Skeena.
- Discussions at this workshop need to explore what kind of decision making frameworks might be needed to respond to such projects, and how a 'filter' could be created that would provide guidance when considering "what we can say yes to!"

#### Charles Conn (Moore Foundation)

- The Wild Salmon Policy requires that Conservation Units be established and limit reference points be set *prior to* planning for other aspects of fisheries management.
- There are about half as many monitoring points in the Skeena watershed today as there were in the 1970s.
- Moore and other third party funders might be willing to fund science in support of salmon conservation, but will also demand multi-party oversight of such science, and the independence of research. To date, management agencies have been unwilling to accept such conditions.
- One of the key questions for the workshop is will DFO and the provincial management agencies come to the table and explore new approaches to science/research and governance?

#### Pat Moss (Northwest Institute/Friends of Wild Salmon)

- Through much of the 1990's, planning was oriented toward land issues, and was not watershed based.
- A larger-scale view is needed, and a coordinated strategy.
- Is there an indication of interest from both governments in sitting down with First Nations and community groups?

#### John Fraser (Pacific Salmon Forum)

- Politics is critical, as it is about who has the power to make changes. We need to know who is in charge, and who we have to influence to get what we want.
- The Cohen Inquiry needed to have the resources and administrative capacity to do science. There also needed to be a hard look inside DFO, as this agency has been dysfunctional.
- I am not an opponent of DFO, but I am a 'patriotic critic.'
- There has been no response to date to the recommendations of the Pacific Salmon Forum. Moving forward with these recommendations will require collaboration between the province and the federal government. Under the constitution, the provincial government has responsibilities for many of facets of management that affect salmon.

#### Kevin Kriese (ILMB)

- The First Nations Initiative Division is responsible for expanding collaboration with First Nations. Collaboration may be seen by some as 'just process,' but it is often a requirement for substantive change.
- As ideas come together regarding collaboration in the Skeena, decisions need to be made about whether to bring in government at the front end, or whether to create something and then bring in provincial agencies at a later date. This is a question of strategy and tactics.
- The framing of the initiative will also influence whether or not provincial agencies are comfortable coming to the table.
- It may be frustrating for some, but there are jurisdictional issues among agencies that need to be understood. Improvements are being made, although not at the pace many would like. In the meantime, it is important to be clear on what question is being asked, so that it is then possible to determine which agency needs to be involved.

- To enable the involvement of provincial agencies, there will also need to be a balanced 'sustainability' agenda, so that economic development is included as well as conservation.
- It will be important to recognize where issues in the Skeena sit in the priority list for government.
- Provincial agency budgets are finite and limited. BC is facing a \$2.4 billion deficit and resource management agencies are facing severe limitations. As a result, provincial staff may be able to participate, but not contribute substantial funding.

#### Jeff Anderson (Bulkley Valley Research Centre)

- The Bulkley Valley CRB has become a de facto arm of government. And is reviewing multiple referrals. It is challenging to make informed decisions however, as information is often lacking.
- In the absence of good baseline monitoring data, it is often only possible to consider individual projects on their own merits, but not possible to consider overall effectiveness for the watershed as a whole.
- New approaches to allow for cumulative effects management and EBM are needed.

#### Greg Knox (Skeena Wild Conservation Trust)

- The Skeena has the potential to become a global model of watershed based management approaches. This could include a commitment to resilience, in terms of maintaining watershed health as well as quality of life for local communities.
- We need to understand impacts, through improved monitoring.
- Decision making processes for reviewing projects need to be improved. Changes include policy direction from the top down, as well as greater public engagement from below. We also need to determine how to get buy-in to such new arrangements from government.
- Our efforts should not result in driving away economic development. On the contrary, improved monitoring should create incentives, by allowing proponents to demonstrate how their projects achieve environmental or other standards, and achieve certification levels.
- Incorporating the Wild Salmon Policy as an integral component of this effort will help to maintain the involvement of the federal government. To engage provincial agencies, we need to incorporate the Water Act reform, and the work of the Pacific Salmon Forum.
- First Nations need to be an integral part of this initiative.

#### Sandra Sulyma (Ministry of Environment)

- Efforts are underway within provincial agencies to improve coordination, via the 'Resource Management Coordination Project.'
- MOE is heavily committed, but we have been challenged to scrutinize our priorities. Doug Konkin is leading transformational change within the agency.
- Provincial agencies need feedback from the community level, letting us know when things work better.
- We also need to be very clear which decision makers within government need to be engaged and involved, so that we can direct the efforts of a collaborative initiative toward those who can actually make change.

#### Mark Cleveland (Gitanyow Fisheries Authority)

- We need to use resources wisely to identify those areas that are critical for salmon in the Skeena.
- Salmon are like the 'canary in the watershed.'
- We need to use science to back our arguments for improved management.
- We need to set priorities, and identify places in the watershed where development should not go ahead ('no-go areas').

## Summary of Emerging Themes

The facilitator highlighted themes emerging from the round of comments, as set out in the table below.

Theme	Key Ideas From Initial Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Object/specific outcomes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Tangible outcomes and changes? What do we want to be different as a result of our efforts?</li> <li>▪ What is achievable?</li> <li>▪ Collaboration process as a requirement for substantive change</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Who is in charge?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Authority/jurisdictional issues</li> <li>▪ Realities of power</li> <li>▪ What roles should/can people play?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Role of government</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Will they come to the table?</li> <li>▪ Framing of initiative so as to enable/encourage buy-in (sustainability, balance)</li> <li>▪ Should they be involved at the front end, or later?</li> <li>▪ Realities of resource constraints (\$, people)</li> <li>▪ Precisely who do we have to influence?</li> <li>▪ Which agency? What question are we asking?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ What horse are we hitching our cart to? (Strategy)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Water Act reform?</li> <li>▪ Pacific Salmon Forum recommendations?</li> <li>▪ Wild Salmon Policy?</li> <li>▪ Scaling up sub-watershed initiatives?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Monitoring</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lack of resources for monitoring</li> <li>▪ Need for help from the community level for monitoring</li> <li>▪ Information is required for improved decision making</li> <li>▪ Importance of science</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Planning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fish and water</li> <li>▪ Salmon as 'unifier'</li> <li>▪ Energy projects—decision making framework/filter, and what are we saying yes to ('no' fatigue)</li> <li>▪ Need for balance/economic development</li> <li>▪ Planning for resilience</li> <li>▪ Identify areas where projects should not go ahead ('no go areas')</li> </ul>

### 3.3 Discussion: Toward Collaboration in the Skeena Watershed

Participants were invited to work in small groups to respond to the following questions:

- What are some of the challenges and opportunities related to collaboration in the Skeena watershed?
- What are our shared assumptions related to such an initiative?
- What are some the critical success factors that need to be addressed?

The outputs from these small groups are summarized below (in verbatim form) under key themes.

#### 3.3.1 Assumptions

- Possible to come together in the watershed around vision and principles.
- First Nations are integral.
- Watershed worthy of protection—not as compromised and must be maintained
- There are common interests to protect → fish—help to link different interests in the watershed

- System is dysfunctional
- Communities throughout Skeena believe more needs to be done to maintain the health of watershed

### **3.3.2 Challenges**

- Complexity of size
- Complexity of First Nations governments
- Elected provincial government doesn't believe in collaboration (Shell, Enbridge, Highway 37)—depends on topic?
- First Nations are integral
- Need to engage and unify whole watershed—focus now on Upper
- Agreeing on acceptable loss or defining sustainable development
- Measuring actual loss—challenge to quantify baselines, monitoring
- Federal/provincial jurisdiction/emphasis
- Lens: healthy wild salmon population—challenge: how decisions are made
- Outside of salmon, there are large differences in views and values between Skeena communities
- Agencies need to decide on parameters in which they will accept decisions of local management authority
- Overcome 'sense of entitlement' (people and agencies)
- Agreement on structure of this initiative (needs to reflect and respect multiple perspectives and experiences and current politics)
- Asset mapping exercise of all relevant interests
- Logistical concerns (interests spread over vast geography)
- Create structure efficiency devoid of politics vs. science
- Clearly articulate and communicate this initiative
- Sharing of human and fiscal resources

### **3.3.3 Opportunities**

- Overcome challenges!
- Integrate human and social dimensions into the process (e.g., Ali Howard's swim)
- General recognition by both agencies and local interests of the need for collaboration on the Skeena
- First Nations are integral
- Improved planning would lead to more streamlined application of requirements and clarity for developers
- People in Skeena want to collaborate
- Social agreement in Skeena that salmon must be conserved—wide agreement on this point
- External \$ for science

### **3.3.4 Critical Success Factors**

- Need 'right' provincial and federal government people at the table—able to make decisions or have link to decision maker
- Initiative needs to be on 'priority list'
- First Nations empowerment and organizing
- Keep concrete and real enough agree (if it is too conceptual → phantom arguments re power)
- Working within box and also to change the box
- Attachment to place
- First Nations are integral
- Unity in watershed

- All level government buy-in
- Resources
- Will require leadership to make it work

### **3.3.5 Design Criteria**

Initial comments on design criteria—from one of the discussion groups only—are as follows:

- 'Firewall' between 'political decisions' and 'science agenda decision making'
- No interest (agency or group) can stop the process by walking out
- Work at smaller scales or need to work at large Skeena watershed (think that way but functional)
- Decision making moves from top down governance to local multi-party governance

## **3.4 Designing For Effective Collaboration**

### **3.4.1 Potential Objectives for Collaboration**

Participants engaged in an exercise to generate proposed objectives for a potential collaborative initiative in the Skeena watershed. The results of the exercise are summarized below. *Note that these ideas have been grouped under themes by the facilitator for ease of interpretation.*

#### Objectives Related to Overall Vision

- To preserve and protect the Skeena salmon stocks and their environment in a manner that sustains vision, respect and responsibility for the people, resources and environment.
- Maintain and enhance the ecological, economic and social resilience of the Skeena watershed and the people who live here, with a focus on salmon.
- Ensure Skeena watershed functions as a healthy ecosystem within a supportive economic and social community.
- Maintain the social and ecological integrity of the Skeena Watershed.
- Manage the Skeena Watershed to ensure ecological and social sustainability.
- Ensure co-existence of healthy, functioning salmon habitat + human activities.
- Recognize the role/danger to salmon etc. that will result in loss of Skeena River and Watershed.

#### Objectives Related to Salmon and Habitat Management

- Maintain healthy wild salmon populations
- Ensure the health of the wild salmon populations into the future.
  1. No salmon stock will become extinct
  2. All aboriginal rights holders able to fully exercise those fishing rights
  3. No critical habitat permanently compromised.
- 1. Conserve stocks of wild salmon that are characteristic of their former natural abundance and distributions.
  2. Provide opportunities for a full range of user groups to harvest salmon.
  3. Manage all factors that effect stocks.
- Preserve the health of fish and fish habitat within each conservation unit throughout the watershed.

#### Objectives Related to Collaboration

- Mobilize all communities together to take action at all levels—community, region, provincial, federal and First Nations.
- Give local communities input and control of decisions that effect salmon in the Skeena Watershed
- Create unity around a vision and set of principles
- Development of a collaborative approach to management of salmon and salmon habitat (+activities effecting salmon/salmon habitat) in the Skeena Watershed.

- Bring interest groups together to find common ground and to formulate a plan to save/protect/conservate Skeena Watershed (salmon).

#### Objectives Related to Improved Governance Arrangements & Decision Making

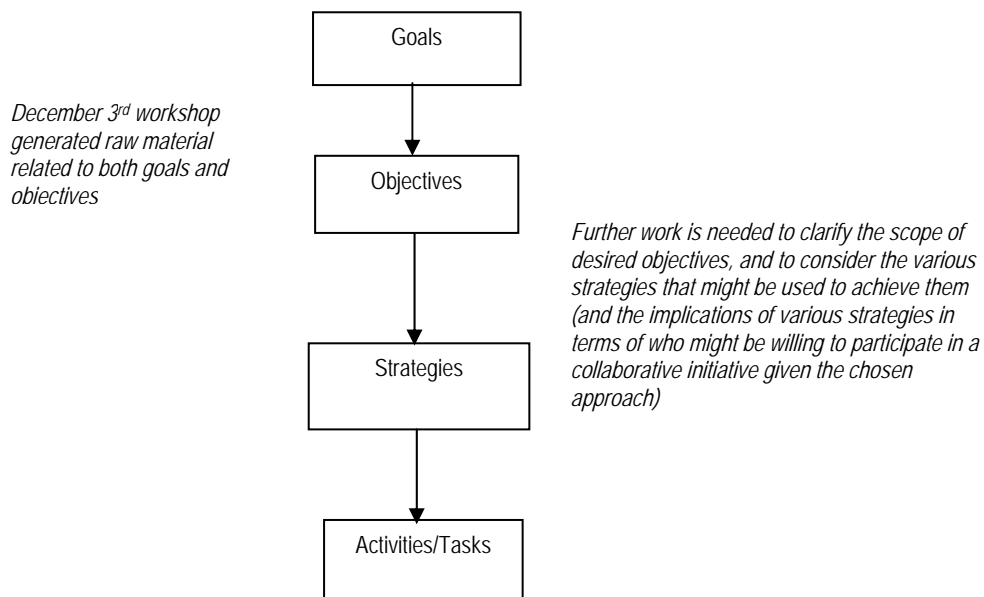
- Establish local leadership and to insist on political leadership and senior levels—someone needs to be in charge.
- Parallel approach from federal government, provincial, industry, First Nations, to achieve healthy populations of all species.
- Inform/direct Skeena Watershed habitat management decisions.
- Use vision/principles to filter out bad energy projects.
- Create and implement a science based monitoring system to inform makers of the impacts and risk to fish, water, and fish habitat.
- Change the way decisions are made about protecting salmon and ecosystems and about allowing resource development.

### **3.4.2 Clarification of Goals, Objectives and Strategies**

Participants noted that there is considerable diversity among the various objectives proposed for the collaborative initiative in the Skeena watershed. In light of this, it was suggested that further work is needed to:

- Define more clearly overarching goals, as there appears to be considerable alignment at this level of generality;
- Examine further the proposed objectives for the initiative, identify where the divergence of opinions represents significant differences in approach, and seek to reconcile or resolve this divergence through further discussion; and,
- Continue to examine potential *strategies* to achieve desired objectives (see diagram below).

It was also suggested that a more formalized planning approach could assist with subsequent refinement of goals/outcomes, objectives, strategies and tasks, for example the use of program logic modeling.



## **3.5 Discussion: Moving Ahead with a ‘Skeena Habitat Project’**

### **3.5.1 Building Support & Encouraging Buy In**

It was noted that many key constituencies were not able to participate in the December 3<sup>rd</sup> workshop, and that further work is needed to broaden support and engage other interests in shaping a collaborative initiative at the watershed scale.

It was also noted that the *framing* of the initiative deserves careful consideration, as participation will be voluntary and the profile of the collaborative process will determine whether various interests—particularly provincial and federal agencies—will participate.

The title ‘Skeena Watershed Project’ was selected as an interim/working title, and is subject to refinement.

### **3.5.2 Relationship to Skeena Watershed Initiative**

Several participants noted that any new collaborative initiative related to salmon habitat management should take into account the existing Skeena Watershed Initiative, which emerged following the 2006 crisis in the Skeena. The process has been underway for some 18 months, guided by a Charter and with professional facilitation support. It was also noted that this existing process is focused primarily on salmon harvest, only involves one provincial agency (MOE), and that it has experienced process challenges which have only recently been addressed.

In light of this, it was suggested that any new collaborative initiative with a salmon-habitat management focus should seek to link with the existing Skeena Watershed Initiative over time.

## **3.6 Next Steps: Skeena Habitat Project Working Group**

At the conclusion of the workshop, participants agreed that a small ‘Working Group’ should be appointed to further discussions related to a Skeena-wide collaborative initiative, building on the September 2009 conference and the December 3, 2009 workshop.

### **3.6.1 Composition of Working Group**

The following individuals were invited to participate on the Working Group:

- Richard Overstall
- Don Morgan
- Rick Budhwa
- Greg Knox

In addition, Kevin Kriese (ILMB) agreed to confer with Jan Lloyd-Smith (MOF) to identify a suitable provincial agency representative that might be willing to participate as a member of the Working Group. While it is assumed that the collaborative initiative would be strengthened by the direct involvement of federal/provincial agencies, it was also noted that this issue should be open for frank discussion as the process moves ahead.

It was agreed that the Bulkley Valley Research Centre could serve as the primary point of contact for the Skeena Habitat Project Working Group, on an interim basis.

### **3.6.2 Interim Funding Support**

The Driftwood Foundation indicated that it had modest funding available to support the Working Group in the short term.

### **3.6.3 Tasks for Working Group**

Tasks assigned to the Working Group are as follows:

- *Notes from Dec 3 Workshop:* The Working Group was charged with preparing a set of notes from the December 3, 2009 workshop, with the assistance of the facilitator. Copies of the summary notes should be made available to all workshop participants.
- *Broadening Engagement:* The Working Group will continue to engage with a broad range of interests regarding a potential Skeena watershed-wide collaborative initiative, share information about discussions to date, and seek support and involvement.
- *Proposal/Prospectus:* The Working Group was charged with preparing a proposal/prospectus or 'White Paper' summarizing discussions to date, and outlining various options for moving forward (including proposed goals/objectives and strategies). This document should also identify the pros and cons of each option, and any implications of the framing of a collaborative initiative in terms of enabling/discouraging the involvement of particular groups or interests. It was suggested that such a document be completed by the end of January 2010.
- *Follow Up Meeting:* The Working Group was asked to convene a further meeting of interested parties once the Proposal/Prospectus is completed, likely sometime in February 2010.

### **3.6.4 Other Initiatives**

Some groups present indicated that they were interested in preparing correspondence urging the provincial government to act promptly on the recommendations of the Pacific Salmon Forum, and framed so that various groups could attach their signatures as an indication of their support. It was agreed that any such action would be undertaken independent and apart from the discussions at this workshop related to a Skeena wide collaborative initiative.

## 4. Appendices

### 4.1 Summary of Evaluation Forms

#### 1. Overall, how would you rate the success of this workshop? (Responses)

Please circle one: 1 (2)                      2                      3                      4 (5)                      5 (2)

Comments:

- Success moving forward, but this is not the Bulkley Valley Research Centre agenda
- Still not sure what group intends on doing, like to see specifics
- Blindsided by competing Skeena Initiative

#### 2. In your opinion, did we fully achieve the objectives of the workshop?

Yes (4)                       No                       Somewhat (5)

Comments:

- Unsure — we are being strong armed
- Difficult complex problem
- Perhaps had hoped it would get further but that is ALWAYS the challenge; good job on big issue

#### 3. What worked well at this workshop?

- Facilitator was excellent
- Most definitely Julian; \$ for Bulkley Valley Research Centre
- Good group of people, excellent facilitation
- Facilitation
- Everyone did their best to stay focused; good group
- Well facilitated, nice small working group
- Keeping a disparate group on track — well done
- Great facilitation, good discussion; difficult path forward, but made good progress
- Defining objective

#### 4. What did not work so well at this workshop?

- Short day for a big scope! (but good nonetheless)
- Objective, this was not objective
- Skeena Watershed Initiative model to be discussed up front or in background material
- Poor lighting; hard to create something from nothing
- Mid-afternoon meltdown was unfortunate
- Like to see more focus
- Lighting in the space needed work

#### 5. How would you rate the facilitation for this workshop?

Please circle one: 1                      2                      3                      4 (1)                      5 (7)

Comments:

- Very good

**7. Comment on organization: Food, registration, venue and communications:**

- Nice internet reception
- Great
- Very good, was convenient
- Lovely
- Excellent
- No problem
- All great
- Real cream for coffee please; rest was great

**9. What do you see as the next step toward ecosystem-based management?**

- The smaller group commences
- More objective money
- Devolution of authority to a local level
- Don't forget about more than science; resource decision making will continue to threaten
- Formalize objectives, focus what group intends on doing
- Working group work coming out of the workshop
- Working group follow through on all of their action items
- Working group seems fine

**10. Do you have any other feedback?**

- Should strive to get more First Nations support

## 4.2 Participants List

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