



Steve Gotch  
Canada

Co-Chairs

John Linderman  
USA

c/o Pacific Salmon Commission Secretariat 600 – 1155 Robson Street, Vancouver, B.C., Canada, V6E 1B5

## YUKON RIVER PANEL MEETING

January 24-27, 2022– SUMMARY MINUTES of the Public Sessions  
Online / Virtual Session

### Those Present:

#### Panel Members

##### Co-Chairs

John Linderman (U.S.)  
Steve Gotch (Canada)

##### Alternate Co-Chair

Caroline Brown (U.S.)  
Steve Smith (Canada)

##### Members

Andrew Bassich (U.S.)  
Carl Sidney (Canada)  
Dennis Zimmermann (Canada)  
James MacDonald (Canada)  
Matthew Keyse (U.S.)  
Pauline Frost (Canada)  
Ragnar Alstrom (U.S.)  
Rhonda Pitka (U.S.)  
Roger Alfred (Canada)  
Stanley Njootli, Sr. (Canada)

##### Alternate Panel Members

Alan von Finster (Canada)  
John Lamont, Jr. (U.S.)  
Michelle Dawson-Beattie (Canada)  
Tim Gerberding (Canada)  
Robert Perry (Canada)  
Sven Pauken (U.S.)  
Virgil Umphenour (U.S.)  
Ellen Yasumiishi (U.S.)

##### Panel Advisors

Brandy Mayes (Canada)  
Brooke Woods (U.S.)

#### JTC Members and Agency Staff

##### JTC Co-Chairs

Steve Smith (Canada)  
Zach Liller (U.S.)

##### Department of Fisheries & Oceans (DFO)

Brendan Connors  
Cathy Merkel  
Chris Carli  
Jesse Trerice (JTC)  
Mark Ross (JTC)  
Oliver Barker (JTC)

##### Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G)

Alida Trainor (JTC)    Bonnie Borba (JTC)  
Deena Jallen    Fred West (JTC)  
Nick Ellickson    Chuck Brazil (JTC)  
Sabrina Garcia    Sam Rabung  
Christy Gleason    Lisa Stuby  
Brooke McDavid

##### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

James Murphy (JTC)

##### U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

Holly Carroll

##### University of Alaska Fairbanks

Dr. Curry Cunningham (JTC)

##### Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association

Serena Fitka

Chief Nicole Tom (Canada) Darcy Peter (U.S.) David Walker (U.S.) Ellie Marcotte (Canada) Gillian Rourke (Canada) James Kelly (U.S.) Jeffrey Peter (Canada) Jennifer Williams (U.S.) Jennifer Hooper (U.S.) Karlie Knight (Canada) Kristina Beckmann (Canada) Melina Hougen (Canada) Natasha Ayoub (Canada) Tom Buzzell (Canada)	
<b>U.S. Department of State</b> David Moore	<b>Pacific Salmon Commission</b> Tom Alpe Victor Keong

**Visitors:**

Zack Cochrane – Deputy Chief Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation

### Wednesday, January 26 – Session Open to Public

**8:30 a.m. to 10:04 a.m. (Alaska Time)**

**10:30 a.m. to 12:04 p.m. (Yukon Time)**

#### Yukon River Panel Opening Remarks and Administrative Items

1. Introduction and welcoming remarks – *Panel Co-Chairs* - **0:00:07 Video Time (VT)**
  - Opening remarks from Steve Gotch (*Canadian Co-Chair*).
  - Opening remarks from John Linderman (*U.S. Co-Chair*).
  - YRP members, YRP alternates, and Panel advisors introduced.
2. Review and approval of meeting agenda – *Panel Co-Chairs* - **0:20:43 VT**
  - Review of meeting agenda by Steve Gotch Linderman (*Canadian Co-Chair*).
3. Yukon River Panel financial report - **0:27:30 VT**
  - a. Funds administered by Pacific Salmon Commission – *PSC*

Presentation – Tom Alpe, PSC Secretariat:

**3. 2021 R&E Fund financial update**

Presentation available at: [www.yukonriverpanel.com](http://www.yukonriverpanel.com) (meeting information tab)

4. Yukon River Panel Communications Committee - **0:41:57 VT**

a. Committee Terms of Reference – *Panel Co-Chairs*

- Overview from YRP Co-Chairs.

b. Committee update on activities – *PSC / Members*

- Overview from Tom Alpe, PSC Secretariat; Andy Bassich, YRP Communications Committee; Serena Fitka, Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association; and Dennis Zimmermann, YRP Communications Committee.
- YRP Co-Chairs to complete a final review of the four videos produced by ESSA Technologies Ltd. for the 2019 Communications Committee project “Salmon Know No Borders” - Communications Campaign” prior to public release / posting on the YRP website.

**Yukon River Panel Joint Technical Committee**

5. 2021 Joint Technical Committee fall meeting summary – *Joint Technical Committee Co-Chairs* - **0:57:14 VT**

a. Update on JTC Chinook salmon escapement goal review

Presentation by DFO – Steve Smith and ADF&G – Zach Liller:

**5. Joint Tech Committee Report to Panel**

Presentation available at: [www.yukonriverpanel.com](http://www.yukonriverpanel.com) (meeting information tab)

***BREAK 10:04 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. (Alaska Time)***

***BREAK 12:04 p.m. to 12:15 p.m. (Yukon Time)***

**10:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Alaska Time)**

**12:15 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. (Yukon Time)**

**Yukon River Salmon 2021 Post-Season Review – Chinook**

6. Review of 2021 Yukon River Panel management recommendations – *Co-Chairs* - **01:36:54 VT**

Presentation – Steve Gotch, *Canadian Co-Chair*:

**6. 2021 Final Bilateral YRP Management Recommendations**

Presentation available at: [www.yukonriverpanel.com](http://www.yukonriverpanel.com) (meeting information tab)

7. 2021 Yukon River Chinook salmon season summary (U.S.) – Deena Jallen and Fred West, ADF&G - **1:43:46 VT**

Presentation by ADF&G – Deena Jallen:

**7. YRP 2021 US Chinook**

Presentation available at: [www.yukonriverpanel.com](http://www.yukonriverpanel.com) (meeting information tab)

***BREAK 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. (Alaska Time)***

***BREAK 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. (Yukon Time)***

**1:00 p.m. to 2:16 p.m. (Alaska Time)**

**3:00 p.m. to 4:16 p.m. (Yukon Time)**

**Yukon River Salmon 2021 Post-Season Review – Chinook (cont.)**

8. 2021 Yukon River Chinook salmon season summary and Canadian environmental conditions report (Canada) – Oliver Barker, DFO - **3:22:10 VT**

Presentation by DFO – Chris Carli and Oliver Barker:

**8. YRP Postseason Meeting - Mainstem Chinook (Canada)**

Presentation available at: [www.yukonriverpanel.com](http://www.yukonriverpanel.com) (meeting information tab)

9. Panel Member Questions - 2021 Yukon River Chinook salmon season summary - **4:15:28 VT**

- The YRP member questions were largely addressed in agenda items 7 and 8.
1. Scheduling 2022 Pre-Season Yukon River Panel Meeting (April 2022) (From Thursday afternoon Public Session) - **4:25:55 VT**
- The April 2022 pre-season meeting will be scheduled on the week of April 4, 2022.
  - Due to travel restrictions as a result of the Covid pandemic the meeting will follow a hybrid online/virtual and in-person (Panel / sections) format.

***BREAK 2:16 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. (Alaska Time)***

***BREAK 4:16 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Yukon Time)***

**2:30 p.m. to 2:53 p.m. (Alaska Time)**

**4:30 p.m. to 4:53 p.m. (Yukon Time)**

10. Public Testimony

**ADJOURNMENT of the Public Meeting 2:54 p.m. (Alaska Time)**

**4:54 p.m. (Yukon Time)**

## Thursday, January 27 – Session Open to Public

**8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.** (Alaska Time)

**10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** (Yukon Time)

### Yukon River Salmon 2021 Post-Season Review – Chum

- Overview of meeting administration and agenda by Steve Gotch (*Canadian Co-Chair*)
- 1. Review of 2021 Yukon River Panel management recommendations – *Co-Chairs* - **0:07:53 VT**

Presentation – Steve Gotch, *Canadian Co-Chair*:

#### 1. 2021 Final Bilateral YRP Management Recommendations

Presentation available at: [www.yukonriverpanel.com](http://www.yukonriverpanel.com) (meeting information tab)

- 2. 2021 Yukon River Mainstem Chum salmon season summary (U.S.) – *Christy Gleason and Bonnie Borba, ADF&G* - **0:10:52 VT**

Presentation by ADF&G – Christy Gleason and Bonnie Borba:

#### 2. YRP 2021 US Chum Mainstem

Presentation available at: [www.yukonriverpanel.com](http://www.yukonriverpanel.com) (meeting information tab)

**BREAK** 10:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. (Alaska Time)

**BREAK** 12:00 p.m. to 12:15 p.m. (Yukon Time)

- 3. 2021 Yukon River Mainstem Chum salmon season summary (Canada) – *Oliver Barker, DFO* - **1:30:30 VT**

Presentation by DFO – Chris Carli and Oliver Barker:

#### 3. YRP Postseason Meeting - Mainstem Chum (Canada)

Presentation available at: [www.yukonriverpanel.com](http://www.yukonriverpanel.com) (meeting information tab)

- 4. Panel Member Questions - 2021 Yukon River Mainstem Chum salmon season

- The YRP member questions were addressed in agenda items 2 and 3.

**11:09 a.m. to 12:33 p.m.** (Alaska Time)

**1:09 p.m. to 2:33 p.m.** (Yukon Time)

### Yukon River Salmon 2021 Post-Season Review – Chum (cont.)

- 5. Review of 2021 Yukon River Panel management recommendations – *Co-Chairs*

- No items discussed.
6. 2021 Yukon River Porcupine Chum salmon season summary (U.S.) – *Christy Gleason and Bonnie Borba, ADF&G* - **2:22:54 VT**

Presentation by ADF&G – Christy Gleason:

**6. YRP 2021 US Chum Porcupine**

Presentation available at: [www.yukonriverpanel.com](http://www.yukonriverpanel.com) (meeting information tab)

7. 2021 Yukon River Porcupine Chum salmon season summary (Canada) – *Oliver Barker, DFO* - **2:27:50 VT**

Presentation by DFO – Chris Carli and Oliver Barker:

**7. YRP Postseason Meeting - Porcupine Chum (Canada)**

Presentation available at: [www.yukonriverpanel.com](http://www.yukonriverpanel.com) (meeting information tab)

8. Panel Member Questions - 2021 Yukon River Porcupine Chum salmon season - **2:36:23 VT**
9. Yukon River Chinook and Chum Salmon Marine Research – *Sabrina Garcia and Jim Murphy* - **2:47:19 VT**

Presentation by NOAA – James Murphy and ADF&G – Sabrina Garcia:

**9. YRP Marine Research**

Presentation available at: [www.yukonriverpanel.com](http://www.yukonriverpanel.com) (meeting information tab)

**BREAK 12:33 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. (Alaska Time)**

**BREAK 2:33 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. (Yukon Time)**

**1:30 p.m. to 2:40 p.m. (Alaska Time)**

**3:30 p.m. to 4:40 p.m. (Yukon Time)**

John Linderman (*U.S. Co-Chair*), Steve Gotch (*Canadian Co-Chair*), and Panel members:

- Acknowledged Richard Burnham, retiring U.S. alternate Panel member, on his significant contributions to the YRP dating back to negotiations of the Yukon River Salmon Agreement .
- A plaque will be presented to Richard in recognition of his contributions to the YRP.

9. Yukon River Chinook and Chum Salmon Marine Research – *Sabrina Garcia and Jim Murphy* (Cont.) - **4:13:51 VT**

**Yukon River Salmon Restoration and Enhancement Fund**

10. Review of Restoration & Enhancement Fund 2021 project status – *Tom Alpe, Pacific Salmon Commission* - **4:19:13 VT**

Presentation – Tom Alpe, PSC Secretariat:

**10. R&E Fund project status report**

Presentation available at: [www.yukonriverpanel.com](http://www.yukonriverpanel.com) (meeting information tab)

11. 2022 Restoration and Enhancement Fund presentation – *Tom Alpe, PSC* - **4:33:45 VT**

- a. Call for Proposals and Near-Term Priorities identified for 2022
- b. Project proposals submitted for consideration
- c. Joint Technical Committee review / public comments / Panel questions

Presentation – Tom Alpe, PSC Secretariat:

**11. 2022 R&E Fund presentation**

Presentation available at: [www.yukonriverpanel.com](http://www.yukonriverpanel.com) (meeting information tab)

**Decision + Action**

The 2023 Yukon Restoration and Enhancement Fund Call for Proposals will emphasize that project proponents must ensure that the requirements and/or criteria identified in applicable Restoration and Enhancement Fund project proposal guidance documents are clearly addressed within project proposals submitted to the YRP for consideration. Projects which fail to include required information or do not fully address project criteria may be disqualified from further consideration.

**Decision + Action**

The PSC Secretariat will extend the deadline for submissions to the 2022 Restoration and Enhancement Fund Project Proposal Call for Public Comments from December 31, 2021 to March 1, 2022. The revised deadline will be posted on the YRP website.

**2:40 p.m. to 3:14 p.m. (Alaska Time)**

**4:40 p.m. to 5:14 p.m. (Yukon Time)**

12. Public Testimony

**3:14 p.m. to 3:26 p.m. (Alaska Time)**

**5:14 p.m. to 5:26 p.m. (Yukon Time)**

1. Scheduling 2022 Pre-Season Yukon River Panel Meeting (April 2022) - **5:32:35 VT**

**Decision**

The Yukon River Panel will schedule its 2022 Pre-Season Meeting for the week of April 4, 2022, with specific dates and agenda details to be identified on the YRP website in advance of the meeting session.

2. Closing Remarks / Public Session Adjourns - **5:34:18 VT**

- Virgil Umphenour (U.S.)

- John Lamont, Jr. (U.S.)
- Rhonda Pitka (U.S.)
- Andy Bassich (U.S.)
- Alan von Finster (Canada)
- Carl Sidney (Canada)
- Steve Gotch (Canadian Co-Chair)
- John Linderman (U.S. Co-Chair)

**ADJOURNMENT of the Public Meeting 3:26 p.m. (Alaska Time)**  
**5:26 p.m. (Yukon Time)**

Public Session video available at: [www.yukonriverpanel.com](http://www.yukonriverpanel.com) (meeting information tab)