



International Yukon River Canadian-Origin Chinook Salmon Rebuilding Plan Development

Yukon River Panel 2025 Post-Season
Meeting

Thursday January 29, 2026

Old Crow, Yukon





Context

- Alaska and Canada have engaged Trinity Consultants Canada (TCC), formerly Ecofish Research Ltd., through the Pacific Salmon Commission Secretariate to assist the Yukon River Panel with the Development of the International Rebuilding Plan for Canadian-Origin Yukon River Chinook Salmon.
- TCC is a multi-disciplinary environmental consultancy with expertise in fish, fish habitat, and fisheries management.
- **Jayson Kurtz, Fisheries biologist, project director, and facilitator.**
- **Kirsten Lyle, Project Manager and facilitator.**



Background

- **Over the past 25 years Chinook salmon in the Yukon River have progressively declined to historically-low abundance.**
- **The Yukon River Chinook Salmon 7-Year Agreement, signed in April 2024, requires development of a Rebuilding Plan.**
- **The Yukon River Panel is responsible for developing the Rebuilding Plan**

What is this Rebuilding Plan?

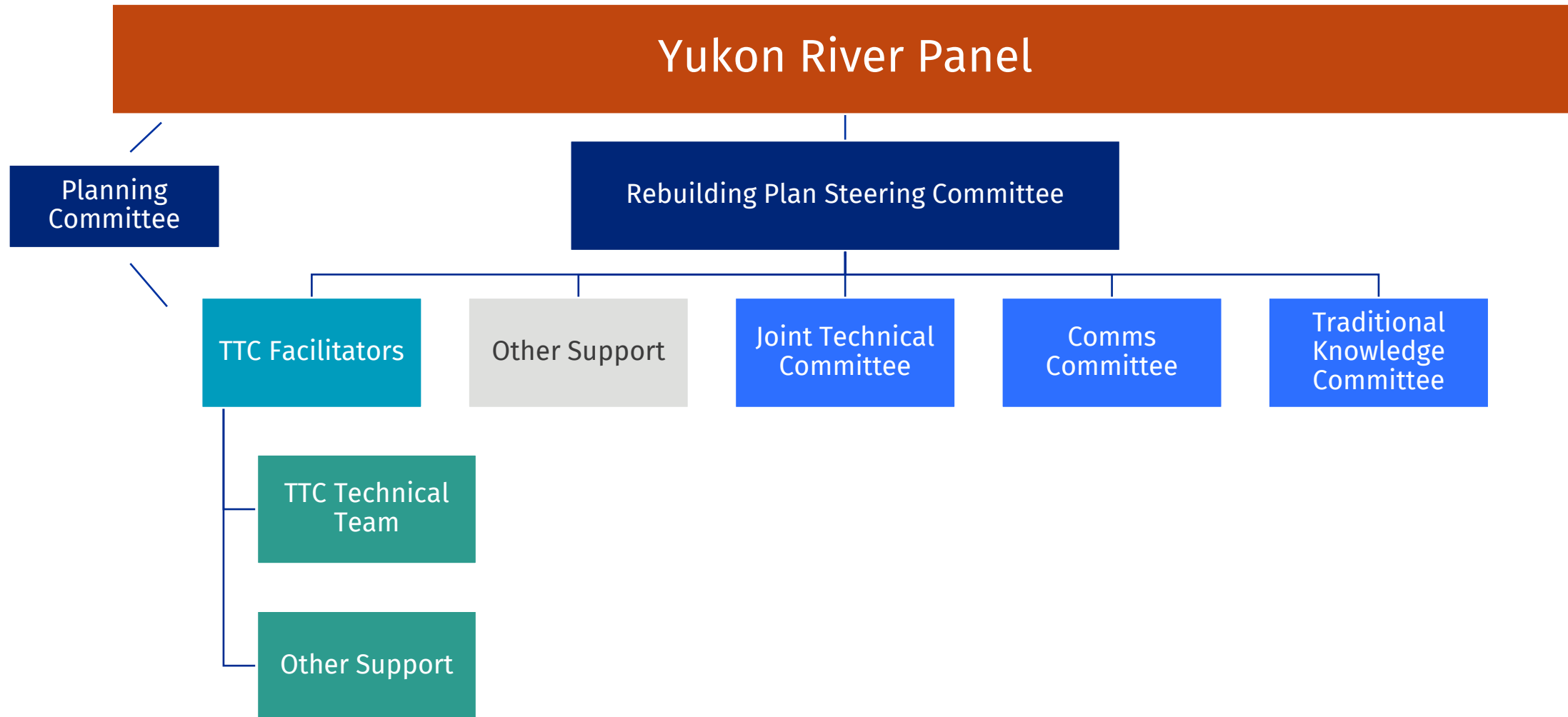
Socio-Cultural
Framework

Technical Framework



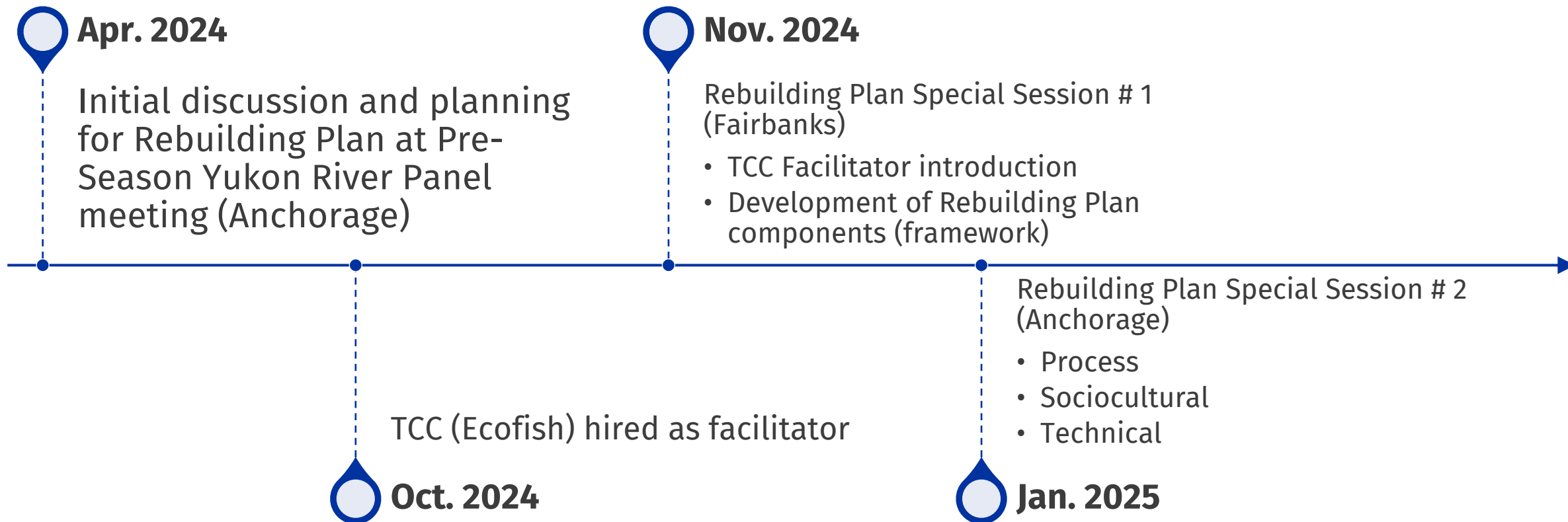
Yukon River Chinook
Salmon Rebuilding Plan

Who is involved?

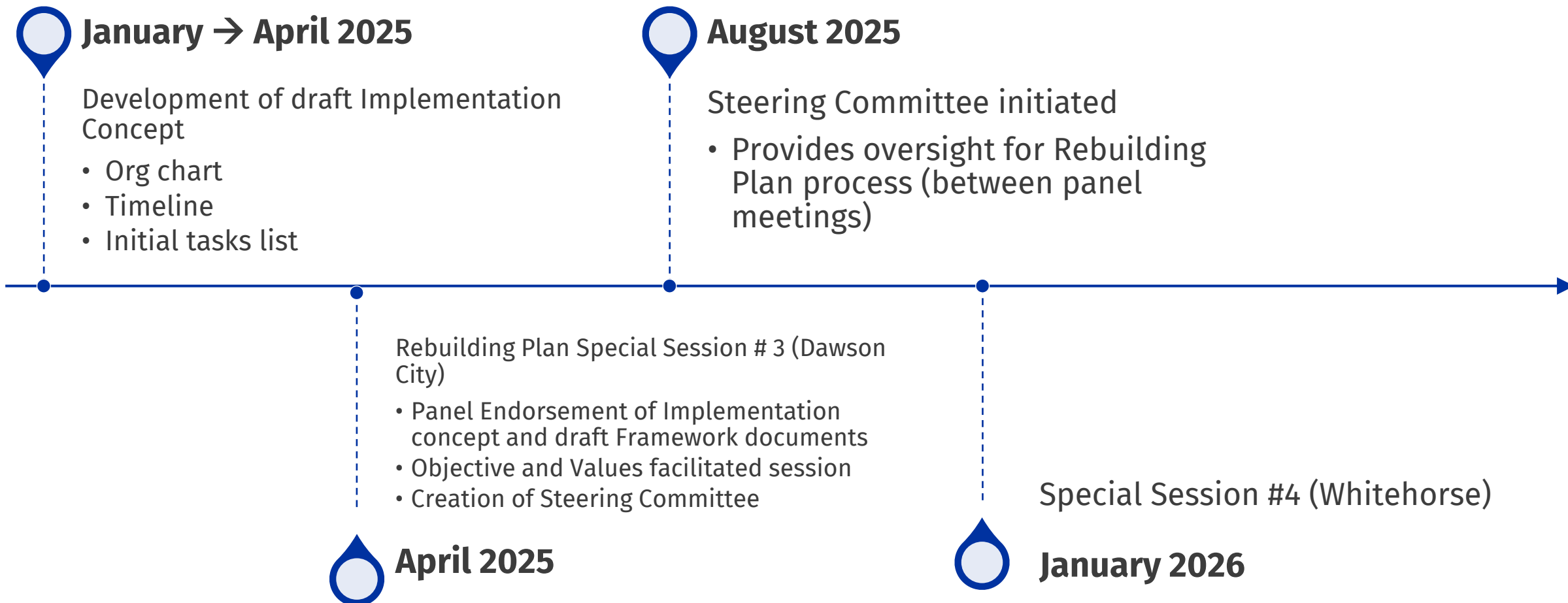




Progress to Date



Progress to Date





Progress to Date

January 26, 2026, Special Session #4, Whitehorse, Yukon

Updates from Steering Committee

- ▶ Developed a Terms of Reference
- ▶ Refined Objectives and Values
- ▶ Collaboration with Yukon River Panel Joint Technical Committee, Traditional Knowledge Committee and Communications Committee to initiate development of technical and sociocultural work outlined in the framework documents



Progress to Date

January 26, 2026, Special Session #4, Whitehorse, YT

- **Presentations on other Rebuilding Plans under development**
 - Canadian (Domestic) Yukon River Chinook Salmon Rebuilding Plan
 - Upper Fraser Chinook Rebuilding Plan
- **Facilitated Session on “Action While Planning”**



Action While Planning

Yukon River Panel members were posed two key questions

- **Question 1:** *What do you like about the Canadian domestic plan approach to “Action While Planning”, what did you not like, or does not “fit” for this process?*
- **Question 2:** *How can we spread the word? What types of communication tools/strategies are most effective within your community or organization?*



Action While Planning

Common themes identified:

- Culture camps
- Alternative fish species and sources of fish
- Education and outreach
- Knowledge sharing (connections between elders and youth)
- Career and Skill development
- Accessible communications, engagement, participation
- Understanding what is important to each community



What's next?

- **Synthesize the information gathered from Special Session #4 to inform/support:**
 - High priority actions (what can be done while the Plan is being developed?)
 - Communications needs/strategies
- **Steering Committee to continue developing workplans, including proposed activities which will require resources and funding**
- **Ongoing collaboration with Yukon River Panel Joint Technical Committee, Traditional Knowledge Committee and Communications Committee and other subject matter experts (scientific and sociocultural)**
- **Prepare for Special Session #5 in April 2026**



Questions?