

**FISHERIES****OVERVIEW**

The Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Fisheries Sector provides support to the National Fisheries Committee (NFC). The NFC provides advice to the National Chief and the Chiefs-in-Assembly on

First Nations fisheries, as they exercise their inherent rights, peacefully enact their laws in their jurisdiction(s), and manage their natural resources.

UPDATE

AFN Resolution 50/2018, *Support for the Fraser Salmon Management Council in their attempts to negotiate with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans a Fraser Salmon Management Agreement*, supports the work of a number of BC First Nations to conclude a reconciliation agreement with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans that would see them participate meaningfully in fisheries management.

Nations coastal and inland fisheries, and sustainable aquaculture.

Resolution 52/2018, *First Nations Inclusion in Canada's Oceans Protection Plan*, seeks appropriate long-term capacity funding for First Nations, and in doing so, respecting their inherent Treaty rights, title, and jurisdictions to their traditional territories.

AFN Resolution 51/2018, *Engagement with Canadian Council of Fisheries and Aquaculture Ministers (CCFAM) and six Technical CCFAM Task Groups*, seeks a place for First Nations within CCFAM and its task groups. The AFN is to engage the CCFAM in discussions on standards outlined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as well as identifying the supports for future co-development of laws, regulations, and policies that impact First

AFN Resolution 79/2018, *Yukon Salmon Treaty*, seeks support for Gwich'in inherent rights to stop oil and gas exploration and development within the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to protect salmon habitat. This resolution instructs the AFN to meet with the Prime Minister, the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, and the Pacific Salmon Commission Chair, calling for their support and continued protection of the Yukon salmon habitat and its sustainable fishery.

NEXT STEPS

The following activities will take place in upcoming months:

- National Fisheries Committee – February 26 and 27, 2019, in Ottawa, ON.
- Oceans Working Group in March 2019 (location TBD).
- National First Nations Fisheries Forum – May 28 to 30, 2019, at the Delta Beausejour, Moncton, NB (proposed).
- National Aquaculture Working Group meeting in March 2019 (location TBD).