



Chinook Recovery & Rebuilding Initiative

Fraser & Approach Forum | February, 2023



Chinook Recovery & Rebuilding Initiative (CRRI)

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CRRI At A Glance

Project Term: January 2022 - March 2024

Funding: BC SRIF; In-kind support: FSMC & Indigenous partners

Host agency/delivery: Fraser Salmon Management Council

Project guidance/oversight: CRRI Steering Committee

Project Coordinator: Marcel Shepert

Lead Biologist: Michael Staley

Greg Witzky (FSMC), Gord Sterritt (UFFCA) & Pat Matthew (FSMB)

Technical team:

Shamus Curtis, Upper Fraser

Marc Labelle, Mid Fraser

Aidan Fisher, Lower Fraser

Nicole Frederickson, Approach.



CRRRI OBJECTIVES

1. To advance Fraser chinook rebuilding.
2. Provide resources & supports promoting a stronger Indigenous technical role in planning, delivery & evaluation.

“A foundational premise of CRRRI is that more technical collaboration & inclusion of Indigenous interests is required to reverse current declines, protect & enhance salmon biodiversity going forward.”



CRRRI ROLE

1. Connect & build on what's already there:

- CSPI, Indigenous projects, knowledge & capacity.
- Complement FSMB's proposed work on chinook rebuilding.

2. A convener, facilitator, coordinator & technical resource supporting Indigenous efforts & leadership:

- Support knowledge exchange, new partnerships, opportunities for collaboration.
- Connect nations, IRMAs, DFO, NGOs, academic, municipal authorities.
- Strengthen Indigenous role in planning, delivery & evaluation at all levels.
- Promote new partnerships: projects, programs & policy development.
- Conservation, enhancement, habitat & harvest impacts.



CRRRI ROLE

CRRRI Is NOT:

- Directly delivering/competing on rebuilding projects.
- Developing overall Chinook rebuilding framework or Indigenous plan — but it can support others to do so.
- Mandated to speak for FN for consultation purposes.



CRRI TASKS

- 1. Engagement:** Build technical collaboration: engage others in CRRI.
 - Outreach, invite technical partners.
- 2. Dialogue:** Convene & facilitate cross-learning, networking & solutions
 - CRRI Dialogue sessions; other venues
- 3. Focussed technical work:** Explore solutions to priority questions.
 - Individual assignments & focussed task groups.
- 4. Information sharing:** Technical resource centre for rebuilding work.
 - CRRI reports, new tools to support information sharing.



2022/23 WORK PLAN

1. **Project Planning:** Establish Steering Committee, Project Coordinator & Project Implementation Plan.
2. **Outreach:** Individual debriefs • Launch & Survey to ID priorities • Invite Indigenous technical staff participation.
3. **Dialogue:** Fall Dialogue Session to launch CRRI, review current status & guide next steps.
4. **Focussed Technical Work:** Compile chinook rebuilding backgrounder • Develop CRRI technical guidance for accessing, using and protecting indigenous knowledge • Other priority topics as identified.
5. **Information sharing:** Technical reports, Dialogue Session report, Year 1 report • Briefings to FSMC Main Table, FSMB, JTC & Spring Forums • Explore options for new resource centre/information sharing tools.



2022/23 WORK PLAN - Initial Steps

- 1. 3-Minute CRRI Survey:** Link: frasersalmon.ca/crri/
- 2. Backgrounder:** V1 of working document summing up context & opportunities for rebuilding.
- 3. Web page:** First step to “Info Hub”
- 4. Fall Dialogue:** 90+ participants — Introduced CRRI, highlight indigenous work underway, networking, identifying opportunities & priorities.
- 5. Jan 25 Advisory Task Group:** Conclusions & next steps.
- 6. Summary report:** In progress



2022/23 WORK PLAN - Initial Survey Feedback

3-Minute survey: Key messages:

- 92% said Chinook rebuilding is a priority:
 - Half already working on chinook, strong interest in partnerships
- Need for watershed-level coordination while nations, regional groups work locally.
 - Capacity is a challenge: resources for more technical capacity at all levels.
- Desire for Indigenous leadership & meaningful partnerships in this work.
- Don't reinvent the wheel/urgency to act: Build on CSPI, etc



2023/24 & BEYOND

1. Build on work started in 2022/23.

- Work planning underway: Guidance from Fall Dialogue, Jan. 2023 Technical Advisory Session.

2. **Final Forum** to share findings, seek guidance for final CRRI report.

3. **Final CRRI report & recommendations on a collaborative technical structure to support Fraser Chinook rebuilding.**

“CRRI’s intended legacy is to lay the foundation of a future technical collaborative structure that ensures a strong ongoing indigenous leadership role in supporting & coordinating work at all levels to ensure strong, healthy fish populations and sustainable management.”



Chinook Recovery & Rebuilding Initiative (CRRI)

We Want To Hear From You!

Fraser Salmon Management Council: frasersalmon.ca

CRRI Project: fraser.salmon.ca/crri

CRRI Project Team: CRRI@frasersalmon.ca

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