



SPORT FISHING INSTITUTE
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

April 16, 2020

Hon. Bernadette Jordan, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Fisheries, Oceans, and the Canadian Coast Guard
200 Kent Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0E6

Dear Minister:

On behalf of the board and members of the Sport Fishing Institute of BC, please accept this letter of support for the BC Sport Fishing Advisory Board (SFAB) 2020\2021 Chinook retention proposals for Fraser Stream Type Chinook submitted to your Pacific Salmon Team on April 9th, 2020 and as attached. Further, as the submission details and confirms as a responsible approach, we request that the proposals be implemented immediately.

The SFAB proposals were developed utilizing Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) science that includes Coded Wire Tag (CWT) data, collected since 1980, and DNA data, DFO initiated DNA analysis in 2014, to clearly identify times and areas where Fraser River stocks of concern are not present.

Further, and as discussed, the implementation of Mark Selective Fisheries (MSF) in times and areas where they are supported by data are critical to the future of the public Chinook fishery in southern BC. The MSF proposals included in the SFAB submission are also supported by data-based evidence, are specific and highly precautionary in their approach, and would provide balance between conservation, cultural and socioeconomic benefits.

We note that those objectives, achieving balance between conservation, cultural and socioeconomic benefits, are supported and sought by the Prime Minister's 2019 mandate letter.

"As Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, you will lead the Government's work to protect and promote our three oceans and our waterways, sustain and rebuild the fisheries, and ensure that they remain healthy for future generations, while providing important economic opportunities to Canadians and coastal communities."

"We are committed to evidence-based decision-making that takes into consideration the impacts of policies on all Canadians and fully defends the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms."

Hon. Bernadette Jordan, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Fisheries, Oceans, and the Canadian Coast Guard

Opportunity to catch and retain Chinook salmon is the cornerstone of the BC tidal waters public fishery. BC's public fishery generates over \$1.1 billion in revenue and creates over 9,000 jobs, 60% of all employment associated with fisheries in BC. The impacts of 2019 chinook non-retention regulations imposed again in 2020 and the Covid-19 travel restrictions threaten collapse of the infrastructure that supports the public fishery. Implementation of the SFAB 2020 Chinook proposals will provide a measure of certainty and stability that the fishery and the businesses and communities it supports desperately need in these difficult times. We urge you to implement these measures and provide some much-needed hope for the future.

Sincerely,

SPORT FISHING INSTITUTE OF BC

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rob Alcock". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rob Alcock,
President