

**YUKON RIVER DRAINAGE FISHERIES ASSOCIATION**

725 CHRISTENSEN DRIVE, SUITE 3-B • ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501  
TELEPHONE: (907) 272-3141 • 1-877-99-YUKON (9-8566)  
FAX: (907) 272-3142 • E-MAIL: YR DFA@ALASKA.COM

March 29, 2007

Nuclear Regulatory Commission

To Whom It May Concern:

Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association (YR DFA) held its 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Pilot Station, Alaska February 126 – March 1, 2007. The YR DFA Board of Directors passed several resolutions regarding issues affecting the Yukon River, and specifically directed you receive the resolution(s) regarding salmon bycatch, hatcheries and roe stripping, nuclear power in Galena, gratefully thanking the people of Pilot Station for their generosity and hospitality, mixing zones in fish spawning areas, concern over Pebble Mine, subsistence windows, reversal of Executive Order 107. You will find the resolution(s), as well as a summary of the meeting, enclosed. If you have any questions about the resolutions, meeting outcomes, or YR DFA in general please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Darcy King', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Darcy King  
Program Manager



## YUKON RIVER DRAINAGE FISHERIES ASSOCIATION

725 Christensen Drive, Suite 3-B, Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
Tel: 907-272-3141 Fax: 907-272-3142

**Resolution: 2007-03**

### **Nuclear power in Galena**

**WHEREAS** YRDFFA represents subsistence, commercial and sport fishers from over 40 communities within the U.S. portion of the Yukon River drainage who depend on wild salmon for subsistence and income; and

**WHEREAS** the City of Galena, Alaska is considering utilizing an experimental nuclear power plant, the Toshiba 4S which has never operated anywhere in the world; and

**WHEREAS** other types of sodium-cooled nuclear power plants have been found to be unsafe, uneconomical and unreliable; and

**WHEREAS** radioactive materials remain hazardous for extended periods of time and there are numerous chances for exposure and contamination associated with the storage, transport and utilization of radioactive materials; and

**WHEREAS** release of radioactive materials poses significant and permanent threats to the Yukon River and its tributaries, Yukon River fish and wildlife and Yukon River communities; and

**WHEREAS** other alternative sources of energy should be researched, developed and made available to the City of Galena and other rural Alaskan villages;

**WHEREAS** YRDFFA supports the establishment of a renewable energy fund in the State of Alaska;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that YRDFFA opposes the installation and operation of a nuclear power facility in Galena, Alaska and anywhere else on the Yukon River Drainage. YRDFFA also opposes the storage transport and experimentation with radioactive materials in the Yukon River Drainage.

**COPIES** of this resolution will be sent to City of Galena, Nuclear Regulatory Commission State Representatives, and Yukon River Intertribal Watershed Council, Department of Environmental Conservation, Department of Natural Resources, Yukon River villages and regional corporations.

**APPROVED** unanimously this 28<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2007 by the Board members and Delegates of the YRDFFA assembled at their Seventeenth Annual Meeting held in Pilot Station, Alaska.

Attest:

**William Alstrom, YRDFFA Co-Chair**



## YUKON RIVER DRAINAGE FISHERIES ASSOCIATION

725 Christensen Drive, Suite 3-B, Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
Tel: 907-272-3141 Toll free: 877-999-8566  
Fax: 907-272-3142 Email: info@yukonsalmon.org

### **17<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Summary Pilot Station, Alaska February 26 – March 1, 2007**

*The entire meeting was recorded.*

*If you need further details regarding meeting minutes, please contact the YR DFA office.*

#### **Monday, February 26, 2007**

##### Invocation

To open the meeting, Rev. Fr. Stanley Heckman of Pilot Station led meeting participants in prayer as he performed the invocation.

##### Roll Call

Twenty-three out of 30 members for the YR DFA Board of Directors were present, thereby constituting a quorum for the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Pilot Station, February 26 – March 1, 2007. Several meeting participants sat in for board members and alternates that were not present, including: Andrew Tony for Y-3, Shelby Edmond and Al Hansen for Y-1, William Solomon, Jr. for Y-4 and Edgar Monroe for Y-6. Seats that remained open during the meeting included: Yukon Flats board member, Koyukuk board member and both Y-2 alternates.<sup>1</sup>

##### Introduction of New Board Members

Board members introduced and welcomed at the Fall Board Meeting in November 2006 included: Mike Peters from Marshall, Harry Wilde, Sr. from Mountain Village and Jeffrey Dementieff from Holy Cross. Leroy Peters, Ragnar Alstrom and Benedict Jones were new alternates. All Board members were introduced at the annual meeting.

##### Welcoming remarks

The Mayor of Pilot Station, John Joe Evan, graciously welcomed and thanked YR DFA and all meeting participants, hoping that all would enjoy their stay.

##### Introductions

As Richard Burnham, upper River Co-chair, was absent, Stanley Ned from Allakaket filled this position. Bill Alstrom, lower River Co-chair, apologized for Burnham's absence and noted that

---

<sup>1</sup> Absent Board Members and Alternates included: Frank Alstrom, Jeffrey Dementieff, Carl Walker, Richard Burnham, Victor Lord, Don Woodruff, Ragnar Alstrom, Abraham Kelly, Albert Beans Jr., and Bill Derendoff.

YR DFA works to iron out differences while continuing to pursue other issues of concern. Ned stated that YR DFA works on consensus and works out differences quietly.

The YR DFA staff, including Jill Klein, Casey Peavy, Kristin Mull, Alicia de la Cruz, Mike McDougall, and Mike Illenberg introduced themselves. Other meeting participants included the following:

Rob Rosenfeld (YRITWC), Carl Sidney (Yukon Salmon Committee), Clarence Alexander (YRITWC), Lara Dehn (ADF&G), Gerald Maschmann (USFWS), Tom McClain (USFWS), Rita Paul (Holy Cross), Walter Stickman (Nulato), Pat Madros Jr. (Nulato/Galena), KB Bettisworth (sound technician), Martha Wright (Ruby), Blanche Edwin (Tanana), Carol Thomas (Chalkytsik), Rosie Simon (Huslia), Philip (Pilot Station driver), Robert Green (Pilot Station elder), Herbert Johnson (Pilot Station driver), Fred Bue (ADF&G), James Green Sr. (Pilot Station), Eric Newland (ADF&G), Laurie Boeck (ADF&G), Larry Hunter (Marshall), Art Heckman Sr., Jacob Isaac (Marshall), Moses Gabrieloff (Russian Mission), Mary Wassillie (Pilot Station), George Wassillie (Pilot Station), Michael Heckman (Pilot Station community liaison), Michael Tinker, Jennifer Hooper (AVCP), David Waltemeyer (AVCP), Leo Kelly (Pilot Station), Tony George (Pilot Station), Donald Kelly (Pilot Station) and several unnamed persons from the community of Pilot Station.

#### Review & Approve Agenda

Art Heckman made the motion to approve the agenda for the meeting, which was seconded by Larry Lujan. Discussion was called and Bill Alstrom suggested keeping the agenda open in order to be flexible. Lester Wilde moved and Benedict Jones seconded it. Motion carried.

#### Review & Approve Minutes

Stan Zuray motioned to accept the meeting minutes from last year's 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, which was seconded by Mickey Stickman. There was no discussion so Art Heckman called question. Motion carried.

#### Distribution/explanation of materials

Binders containing meeting materials and information were distributed to board members, alternates, staff and meeting attendees. Additional materials were to be handed out as needed and added to the binders.

#### Resolution committee appointment

A Resolutions Committee was formed to review and /or assist with any resolutions submitted at this meeting. Preferring to have 3-5 board members, with equal upriver downriver representation, Stan Zuray, Jan Woodruff, Art Heckman and Al Hansen volunteered to be on the committee.

#### Executive committee nominations by the YR DFA Board

As a new Board was seated for 2007, positions on the Executive Committee (5 upper and 5 lower River representatives) needed to be updated. Board members currently on the Executive Committee were all present, except for Jeffrey Dementieff and Don Woodruff. Mickey Stickman made a motion to keep the Committee members as they are which Alan Hansen seconded. Discussion was called. The YR DFA by-laws state the Executive Committee is

elected at an annual meeting. Stan Zuray pointed out that it is usually the most senior board members on the Committee. As revisions to the by-laws are an agenda topic for this meeting, it was suggested by Bill Alstrom that this issue be discussed later in the meeting. Stan Zuray called question and the motion carried.

Assignments for lodging accommodations were given out and other meeting logistics explained prior to recessing for the evening.

**Tuesday, February 27, 2007**

#### Administrative Report

Jill Klein, YRDFA Executive Director, outlined the work YRDFA has conducted riverwide on fishery issues, within the areas of policy, science, anthropology and communication, capacity-building, marketing and education. The staff seeks strategic direction from the YRDFA Board as the political atmosphere shifts and as YRDFA's future financial status changes. Congress wishes for more fiscal transparency; therefore earmarks were not included in the budget Congress recently passed. This means that YRDFA most likely will not receive congressional funds for the 2008 fiscal year, until we are further notified that funds may be made available through other mechanisms. A discussion on spending priorities is necessary by the YRDFA Board to determine how its current available appropriations will be spent.

#### Financial Report

Alicia de la Cruz, YRDFA Finance Manager, updated the YRDFA Board with current financial information. The audit, conducted by Fowler & Associates, is nearly completed and will require a teleconference with the Board for review. Copies of the audit will be mailed to Board members within 1-2 weeks. A motion, made by Larry Lujan, to accept the financial report was seconded by Andrew Kelly, Sr. Question was called. Motion carried.

#### Sub-committee Reports

The YRDFA Sub-committees, including By-laws, Policies & Procedures, and Finance met October 31, 2006 at the YRDFA Fall Board Meeting. The By-laws Committee (Richard Burnham, Bill Alstrom, and Jill Klein) worked with the Foraker Group and reviewed draft changes, which were forwarded to the full Board 30 days in advance of this meeting. This committee can now be dissolved if the Board wishes. The Policies & Procedures Committee reviewed three sets of policies, including financial, board, and personnel (employee manual), making recommendations that were forwarded to the full board. These policies were approved at the fall board meeting. The YRDFA Employee Manual was also approved, except for paid time off. Klein asked the YRDFA Board to take action tomorrow morning on its sick leave policy. This committee can now be dissolved. The Finance Committee, chaired by Larry Lujan, reviewed YRDFA's financial in detail and went over the audit procedures. Remaining committees will be the Governance Committee, which will review by-laws and policies, and the Finance Committee as standing committees in the Board Policies. The ad-hoc Fish Size Committee was created at the fall board meeting in response to the fish size proposals (chaired by Stan Zuray). They reviewed Board of Fisheries (BOF) proposals, but did not produce specific recommendations as the Executive Committee met and took final action before the BOF meeting. Minutes from this committee meeting were made available to the full YRDFA Board. This committee can now be dissolved, however Zuray suggested it be kept open to discuss future action before the next BOF meeting.

## 2006 Resolutions

Klein reviewed the resolutions from 2006 while discussion ensued.

It was suggested that *Resolution 2006-01 Mixing Zones*, be left as a standing resolution due to on-going concern. Despite state-wide opposition, the Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC) will allow for it [mining related to the Donlin Creek Mine and Pebble Mine], even in spawning areas. Although proposed bill HB 74 in the Alaska State legislature bans mixing zones in spawning areas and proposed bill HB 134 protects spawning waters in the Bristol Bay region, neither of these bills has yet been passed and there are representatives trying to protect mining companies.

*Resolution 2006-02 Hatcheries and Roe Stripping* was also marked to be a standing resolution. Staff suggested forming a hatchery sub-committee to focus more on this issue. It was noted that YR DFA has written a letter to the Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game Commissioner regarding its position on this issue. During the 2006 fishing season, Y-4 subsistence data was collected by ADFG as a means to support

*Resolution 2006-03 ASLWG Data Collection*. On June 20, 2007 access to the database holding this information will be available. YR DFA also supported the hiring of technicians for such data collection in the Rampart-Rapids region. A proposal was also submitted to the R&E Fund to continue girth and weight data collection during the 2007 fishing season in ADFG's Lower Yukon Test Fishery. ADFG is currently working to standardize procedures for measuring girth and weight; age, sex and length already have a standardized procedure.

*Resolution 2006-04 Recognition of Ruby* gratefully acknowledged the community of Ruby's hospitality for hosting the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting.

YR DFA continues to participate in the Western Alaska Salmon Stock Identification Project (WASSIP) to help preserve Yukon River chum salmon stocks in support of *Resolution 2006-05 Area M*. The WASSIP program is still in the sampling phase and will not release data until three years have been collected and analyzed

YR DFA staff has been working on a multi-component process or addressing salmon bycatch, both working at the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) and conducting outreach to involve other stakeholders in this process as a means of supporting *Resolution 2006-06 Bycatch*.

## Public Testimony

The public was given the opportunity and encouraged to speak to the YR DFA Board and all meeting participants to voice any concerns, opinions or comments that had regarding Yukon River salmon fisheries. Testimony was organized by topics of interest as brought forward by the public.

## *Canadian Counterparts*

Harry Wilde, Sr. spoke about the US-Canada negotiations that resulted in the *Yukon River Salmon Agreement*, which led to a discussion regarding the fishery in the Yukon Territory. Harry expressed concerns that the U.S. was giving up too many fish to the Canadians and that

people in the lower Yukon River were having a hard time meeting their subsistence and commercial needs.

Carl Sidney from the headwaters in Teslin, Y.T. also spoke for his elders as he related anecdotal information on fish size, stating that he hasn't seen an 80 lb salmon for at least 10 years; the biggest seen now is 40 lbs and not very healthy. Rivers used to turn red with Chinook salmon, but now, as with the harvest last year, Sidney's family was unable to get any fish; 18,000 fish crossing the [Alaska-Y.T.] border just isn't enough as Harry Wilde Sr. mentioned. Jill Klein clarified that border passage is agreed at 33,000 Chinook salmon and that in low years, as has been the case recently, the Yukon River Panel has agreed to a border passage of 28,000 Chinook salmon. For the past five years, Alaskans have exceeded border passage goals into the Yukon Territory, Canada.

The dam in Whitehorse, built in the late 1950's, was discussed as Alaskan meeting participants were made aware that the dam is not on the mainstem Yukon River and that the hatchery counts between 1,000-2,000 returning salmon each year; half being hatchery-origin Chinook salmon. As discussion ensued, YRDLA Board member Stan Zuray mentioned that last year in Ruby and 12 years ago in Kaltag, it was brought up that YRDLA doesn't have a Canadian component at the YRDLA table. As a riverwide organization with no political boundaries, it was again suggested that there be Canadian representation within YRDLA.

#### *Pollutants*

Concern for polluting the waters of the Yukon River was aired as ghost nets and boat pollutants were mentioned. One meeting participant plainly stated that we all pollute and it runs into the river and ocean, but wanted to know what tests can be done on fish to see pollutions' effects?

#### *Gear Size*

As fish size continues to be a concern for many, it was noted that potential gear size restrictions would need to be proposed from an organization such as YRDLA or from individuals. It was agreed that this is a topic that warrants more discussion, research and needs action to be taken on in the future.

#### *Marketing*

Lower river commercial fishermen thanked YRDLA for supporting marketing efforts and recognized that it helps everyone on the river.

#### *Bycatch*

Concern regarding sea trawlers and their ability to inadvertently catch salmon bound for the Yukon led YRDLA's Jill Klein to mention that YRDLA has been working on this issue for a while and that salmon bycatch is still an area of concern.

#### *Sewage & Anti-bacterial Soap*

Questions about the Dawson sewage problem were raised and Rob Rosenfeld, Director for the YRITWC, said that sewage on the Yukon River is not just a problem in Dawson. Sewage lagoons break down waste extremely slowly when in the presence of anti-bacterial compounds, such as those found in anti-bacterial soap. River residents were encouraged to use such soaps sparingly.

#### Galena Nuclear Power Plant Update

Rob Rosenfeld, Director of the Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council (YRITWC) reviewed information on the nuclear reactor that could potentially be installed and operated in Galena, Alaska as the City has begun the licensing process. The YRITWC, which has obvious concerns about the safety of a nuclear reactor, has done quite a bit of research on the project and is lobbying against its installation. This type of reactor, touted as an experimental design, has failed consistently. The Yukon River is one of the healthiest rivers in its size class in the world and the potential hazards from a nuclear reactor are numerous! There is also concern regarding the substrate this reactor would be installed on – permafrost – and its potential proximity to a fault line that runs near Galena. While the Loudon Tribal Council opposes the presence of this reactor in Galena, the City is still pursuing it. Rosenfeld suggests that those concerned contact Alaska's federal legislators to voice their opinion.

#### Natural Indicators Project Update

Kristin Mull, YRDFA biologist, provided an update for the *Natural Indicators of Salmon Run Abundance & Timing* project that she is working on in conjunction with ADFG. Through local knowledge, project investigators hope to learn more about why salmon run sizes vary so much from year to year. The project has been promoting capacity building and interviewing local residents.

#### The Biology & Science of Salmon

Mike McDougall, YRDFA's Educational Outreach Coordinator, provided an opportunity for meeting participants to learn more in depth detail about the biology and science behind anadromous fish, such as salmon. McDougall was sure to stress the importance of conserving non-natal rearing areas (habitat) for salmon. Discussions after his presentation centered on pollution, garbage, and landfills. One participant brought up beavers and the ability of their dams to block tributaries through which salmon are migrating to/from spawning grounds. McDougall mentioned Canada's program to manage beaver dams and how such dams actually positively affect some species of fish, such as whitefish. The YRITWC has also received funding from the National Science Foundation to conduct a workshop April 26-28, 2007 in Emmonak to gain more insight into increasing beaver populations within Alaska along the Yukon River.

#### Chinook & Summer Chum Outlook

Eric Newland, ADFG biologist, reviewed the 2006 season summary and outlook for 2007, which is expected to be below average for Chinook and continued improvement for summer chum salmon (1.4 million expected).

Based on information presented at the Board of Fisheries meeting, YRDFA Board member Stan Zuray asked for more information regarding test fisheries, genetics and ADFG's ability to estimate total run strength for Canadian-origin Chinook. A more realistic count of the number of salmon crossing the border into Canada would be based on genetic samples taken at the Pilot Station sonar and on the development of border sonar. Data collected from more test net sites in the lower river test fishery to monitor CPUE will be comparable to prior years. In 2006 ADFG ran more sites, but did not incorporate all the data at the same time, instead randomly choosing sites to represent best what is going on.



### Fall Chum & Coho Outlook

Fred Bue, Fall Season Manager in the Yukon Area for ADFG, presented a handout on the 2007 season outlook.

### Board of Fisheries Outcomes

Jill Klein presented outcomes from the Board of Fisheries (BOF) meeting in February 2007.

- *Proposal 158* regarding the marking of subsistence-caught Chinook salmon for lower river Districts Y-1 through Y-3 passed. Fishermen in Y-1, Y-2 and Y-3 must now cut the tail instead of the dorsal fin for the entire season from June 15 to July 15 to prevent subsistence-caught fish from getting into the commercial market.
- *Proposals 159-162* regarding the windows schedule did not pass. Therefore, the Windows schedule will remain the same.
- *Proposals 163 & 164* addressing the size of Chinook salmon by reducing commercial gill nets to 6" mesh or less failed.
- *Proposals 165 & 166* addressing the size of Chinook salmon by reducing gill nets of 6" mesh or greater to 35 meshes deep failed. The BOF stated that the cost to implement these proposals were too high without knowing the true impact they would have.
- *Proposal 167* was put in by YRDFA as a placeholder for a fish size working group proposal. Since the group did not reach agreement, no proposal was put in and thus the Board of Fish took no action on this proposal.
- *Proposal 169* which would require that the first commercial opening on the Yukon River be held no later than June 15<sup>th</sup> failed.
- *Proposals 170 & 171* regarding the allocation of the Yukon Delta CDQ group's bycatch both failed.
- *Proposal 173* submitted by YRDFA to amend the coho management plan passed with amendment.

YRDFA did not take a position on proposal 174 regarding commercial fishing for fall whitefish and cisco as there was no consensus on whether or not commercial fishing on these traditional subsistence species should be permitted.

The proposals the BOF will be considering in 2010 will have to be submitted by April 2009. Normally there is a 5 to 6-month time period to provide comments on proposals. However, an agenda change request (ACR) is possible if unforeseen circumstances or new information is available that relates to a submitted proposal. YRDFA spent a lot of time and money to gather comments and give testimony on this year's proposals. Knowing the opinions of all users river-wide is vital to making YRDFA's contribution significant. It was suggested that YRDFA and others on the Yukon River work together before the submittal of the next round of proposals for the AYK BOF 2010 meeting to promote river-wide cooperation in advance.

### Future Direction of Salmon Size Studies

As YRDFA's biologist, Kristin Mull is a part of the Yukon River Panel Joint Technical Committee (JTC) and its Salmon Size Sub-committee (6 members from agencies and non-governmental agencies representing both the U.S. and Canada). The sub-committee was directed to examine data regarding the fish size issue. They produced a white paper that examines existing data on age, sex, and weight of salmon; history of harvests in the lower river; Yukon

River gillnet selectivity; heritability of traits; and selective fisheries. Future studies will need to include a comparative mesh size study; commercial weights by unrestricted mesh sizes; and analysis of age-sex-length (ASL) data already collected. A comparative mesh size study is currently being developed by ADFG on this topic with involvement by YRDFA and the Yukon Delta Fisheries Development Association.

#### Customary Trade of Subsistence Harvested Fish on the Yukon River

Catherine Moncrieff, YRDFA's Anthropologist presented on her study regarding customary trade of subsistence-caught fish on the Yukon River. She is currently working on the final report, which will be distributed upon completion.

**Wednesday, February 28, 2007**

#### YRDFA By-law & Employee Manual Revisions

Jill Klein reviewed the proposed changes to YRDFA's by-laws as worked on by YRDFA's By-law Sub-committee. Stan Zuray made a motion to accept the suggested changes as presented to the full Board of directors in annual meeting binders; motion seconded by Lester Wilde. Question was called. The motion carried.

During the review of the proposed changes for this year, several suggestions were made for future changes, including:

- Yukon Flats/Y-5D seat be split into two seats, thereby adding one seat to Y-5D and adding an additional seat to the lower river, potentially to Y-3;
- YRDFA Board members should be at least 18 years of age;
- Elections should be held at annual meeting;
- Voting members of YRDFA should be at least 18 years of age;
- Include Canadian representation on the Board of Directors; and
- Add a lower and upper river Vice-chair to the Association.

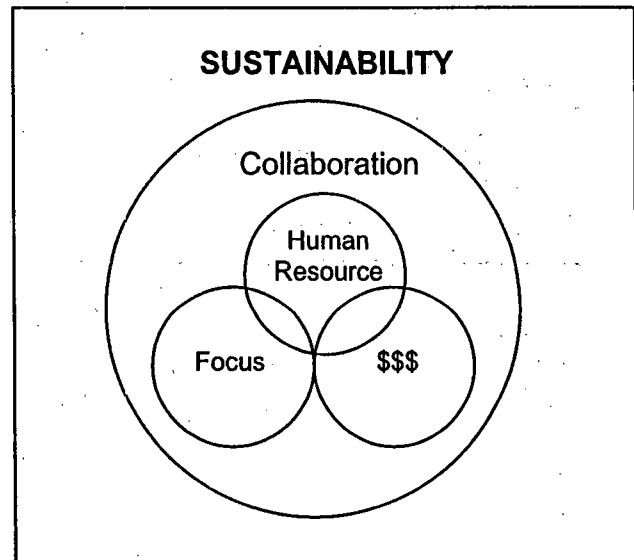
Revisions to the Employee Manual were not addressed at this time, but will be during an upcoming teleconference with the Board when the audit is reviewed.

#### Spending Priorities

Jill Klein reviewed the spending priorities and budget determination procedures. As a congressional appropriation with earmarks has been eliminated for federal fiscal year 2007, YRDFA has most likely lost its financial security for two years out.

However, there remains enough money to secure YRDFA's future for one more year, which would be YRDFA FY 2008 with

additional funds to carry forward for partial funding in YRDFA FY 2009. Therefore, it is the Board's responsibility to develop priorities for staff, which will then develop an annual operating plan based on those priorities. Competitive sources of funding have been and continue to be



pursued, but YRDFA has not received substantial funding via this source as of yet. The Board requested more time to consider this issue.

#### Foraker Training –Leadership on the River

George Hieronymus, Senior Consultant and Chief Operating Officer for the Foraker Group discussed planning with the YRDFA Board and meeting participants.

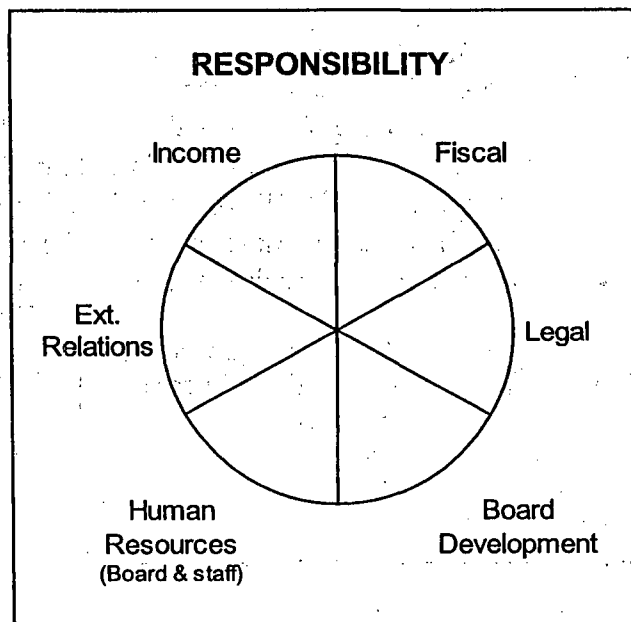
The Board identified needs for YRDFA which included the following:

- 1) Human Resources - Board & staff
- 2) Money - Unrestricted funds (e.g. membership fees and earned income).
- 3) Focus – A strategic plan can lose focus by chasing grants with strings attached. Keep core purpose in mind when pursuing funds. Are our existing programs within our core purpose?
- 4) Collaboration - Working with other entities.

Responsibilities that an organization, such as YRDFA, must “juggle” include six general areas: fiscal, legal, planning (Board development), human resources, external relationships and income. For this session, income and planning were addressed with the YRDFA Board expressing a list of their priorities.

Suggestions from Board and other meeting participants included:

- 1) Increase membership
- 2) Address declining fish size
- 3) Incorporate Canadian representation
- 4) Provide educational programs
- 5) Encourage inter-agency collaboration
- 6) Pursue marketing
- 7) Conduct outreach and information sharing
- 8) Support subsistence fishery
- 9) Revitalize commercial fishery
- 10) Protect salmon as one-river for future generations
- 11) Conserve and restore salmon habitat
- 12) Conduct scientific studies using local hires



Rob Rosenfeld from the YRITWC suggested that the YRITWC and YRDFA Board of Directors meet in order to find a way to work together and collaborate on certain efforts.

Hieronymus presented to the group the idea of *B.H.A.G – Big, Hairy, and Audacious Goals!* and asked for suggestions that would represent this idea as related to YRDFA:

- 1) Secure funding;

- 2) Gain support from river communities by asking for donations (\$200/community would equate to ~\$8,400);
- 3) Ensure adequate fish stocks to support all users river-wide;
- 4) World-wide recognition of YRDFA;
- 5) Gain control of land with spawning grounds; and
- 6) Get regional corporations more involved in fisheries

Further discussion points addressed during this session included:

- 1) Talk to entities already successfully marketing Copper River salmon for more marketing techniques;
- 2) Avoid duplication of programs with other groups and organizations;
- 3) Identify which grants and funding sources would satisfy the strategic directives YRDFA has already established and apply for them;
- 4) Approach organizations that have a planned giving program whereby each employee would give a certain amount from each paycheck to YRDFA;
- 5) Diversify funding sources; build relations and gain confidence of foundations; and develop a good government funding strategy; and
- 6) Hire a qualified, full time grants administrator.

#### 2007 Resolutions

The 2007 resolutions drafted by the Resolutions Committee appointed at this annual meeting were presented, discussed and adopted by the YRDFA Board of Directors.

**Resolution 2007-01** regarding salmon bycatch was moved by Lester Wilde and seconded by Stan Zuray. Discussion and question were called. Motion carried.

**Resolution 2007-02** regarding hatcheries and roe stripping was moved by Lester Wilde and seconded by Stan Zuray. Discussion and question were called. Motion carried.

~~**Resolution 2007-03** regarding nuclear power in Galena was moved by Mickey Stickman and seconded by Stan Zuray. Discussion and question called. Motion carried.~~

**Resolution 2007-04** gratefully thanking the people of Pilot Station for their generosity and hospitality was moved by Mickey Stickman and seconded by Stan Zuray. Discussion and question called. Motion carried.

**Resolution 2007-05** regarding mixing zones in fish spawning areas and non-natal areas was moved by Lester Wilde and seconded by Stanley Ned. Discussion and question called. Motion carried.

**Resolution 2007-06** regarding concern over Pebble Mine was moved by Lester Wilde and seconded by Stan Zuray. Discussion and question called. Motion carried.

**Resolution 2007-07** regarding effects of subsistence windows on elders was moved by Bill Alstrom and seconded by Allen Hanson. Discussion and question called. Motion carried.

**Resolution 2007-08** regarding reversal of Executive Order 107 was moved by Mickey Stickman and seconded by Allen Hanson. Discussion and question called. Motion carried.

**Thursday, March 1, 2007**

2007 Resolutions (cont'd)

A motion was made by Stan Zuray to include Canadian representation on the YRDFA Board of Directors by inviting the Yukon Salmon Committee (YSC) to designate a non-voting commercial or subsistence representative to sit on the YRDFA Board. Art Heckman seconded the motion. Discussion called. Cost of sending a Canadian representative to YRDFA meetings was brought up as a concern as was making sure that sport users and processors are also represented. Question called by Philip Titus. Motion carried. A letter will be written by YRDFA staff to the YSC.

Call for Nominations

Call for nominations for the 2008 YRDFA Board of Directors opens as of the annual meeting each year. A motion was made to accept nominations. Motion carried. Nominations included most Board members, alternates and others present at the meeting. Motion was made to close nominations at the meeting. Discussion and question called. Motion carried. Nominations will still be solicited as directed by the by-laws.

Discussion regarding YRDFA's election process ensued as one Board member suggested the alternate seats expire on staggered years as opposed to all in the same year. Other comments were raised about the election process and the need for greater transparency in the process for the public. YRDFA staff will notify all nominees and confirm their desire to be on the YRDFA Board. As well, the election process will be more informational to include bios of the nominees along with explanation on how the election process works. In addition to this, the election process will be reviewed as part of the YRDFA Governance Committee work on by-law revisions.

18<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Community Nominations

Jan Woodruff from Eagle nominated Eagle as an upper river community to host next year's annual meeting. Philip Titus nominated Grayling, stating that although Carl Walker from Grayling could not be present at this meeting, he had informed Board members of his invitation to Grayling. A motion was made to close nominations. Motion carried. A motion was made by Mickey Stickman to have Grayling as the primary location and Eagle as the secondary location for the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting; Mike Peters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Closing Comments

Many rounds of thanks and thoughts of appreciation were shared by Board members, staff and meeting participants as the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting came to a close. All graciously thanked the community of Pilot Station for hosting the meeting.

Meeting adjourned.