



## PACIFIC SALMON COMMISSION

ESTABLISHED BY TREATY BETWEEN CANADA  
AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
MARCH 18, 1985

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The Pacific Salmon Commission has undertaken an important initiative to help facilitate the coast wide application of genetic stock identification (GSI) technology to the management of ocean salmon fisheries. The Commission invites you or representatives of your agency or organization to participate in this effort by attending the first day of a three day workshop to be held May 15-17, 2007 at the Benson Hotel in Portland, Oregon.

The application of GSI technology to salmon management has been one of the most exciting and promising scientific developments in the field of salmon fishery management in many years. Realization of its full potential as a management tool requires that it be applied in a coordinated and bilateral manner on a coast wide scale. The Commission's Committee on Scientific Cooperation, with funding provided by the Northern and Southern Funds organized a Steering Committee to respond to this need. The Steering Committee developed a multi-faceted approach that brings together leading experts in the science of GSI and the field of fishery management to address specific scientific and practical issues involved in the design and implementation of such a system. The overall objective is as follows:

To develop recommendations for integrating GSI information into a coordinated, coast-wide management system to improve the ability of ocean fisheries to access abundant stocks within impact constraints established for other specific stocks and, to the extent possible, to identify and quantify the costs, implementation steps and timeframes to implement these recommendations.

The process involves two three-day workshops of leading scientists and fishery managers from Canada and the United States who have been invited to participate and develop recommendations for the coast wide system. They have been organized into workgroups to address specific questions posed in advance by the Steering Committee. The first day of the May 15-17 workshop in Portland will be open to representatives of management agencies, tribes, and interested members of the public, in addition to the workgroup members. However, space is limited and will be available on a first-come, first admitted basis. A fee of \$25 will be assessed to help defray costs; workgroup participants will not be required to pay this fee.

The schedule for Day 1 consists of presentations by invited speakers and discussions designed to provide a common understanding of the relevant issues and frame the pertinent questions. On the second and third days, the workgroups will meet to begin the development of their recommendations. A Workgroup Coordinator has been engaged for each workgroup to facilitate discussions and take responsibility for delivering the workgroup products.

The second workshop, scheduled for September 11-13, 2007 in Vancouver, B.C., will be open only to the workgroups and Coordinators to further refine their recommendations and to incorporate them into a broader system. The process will culminate in late 2007 in a report by the Steering Committee to the Commission and relevant management agencies for their consideration and implementation.

A more detailed description of the workshop process is attached. Please note again that seating is limited for the May 15 session. Please contact Kim Bartlett at the Pacific Salmon Commission: [bartlett@psc.org](mailto:bartlett@psc.org) or call 604-684-8081 to reserve your seat and arrange payment of the \$25 admission fee. We anticipate that only a very limited number of seats, if any, will be available on the day of the session.