

Nisga'a Lisims Government

The following information is based on a fictitious example for the Treaty Simulation. Although the scenario is fictitious, it is based on real-life agreements with peoples, nations, organizations and different levels of governments.

YOUR TASK

NLG has proposed a meeting with the Treaty partners/parties (Nisga'a Lisims Government, Government of BC, and Government of Canada) to develop and finance a **Nass Chum Salmon Rebuilding Plan**.

Your team has been hired to negotiate on behalf of the Nisga'a Lisims Government (**NLG**). Based on the guidance from your party in this mandate letter, your team must draft a proposal for the plan.

Your proposal for the Nass Chum Salmon Rebuilding Plan should:

1. Identify which threats to Nass Chum salmon should be addressed (e.g., changing climate, habitat degradation, mineral extraction, fish farming, etc.).
2. Identify management and monitoring measures to help rebuild Nass Chum stocks (e.g. habitat restoration, enhancement, research, public education).
3. Suggest where the funds should come from (i.e., who should cover costs).

GUIDANCE FROM YOUR PARTY

- You are working on behalf of a Nisga'a Nation, so you will have to represent the interest of all Nisga'a communities, on and off Nisga'a lands.
- You recognize the cultural, economic, and social importance of having access to healthy and abundant salmon for Nisga'a citizens and neighbouring First Nations.
- Nisga'a Elders have expressed concerns about the impacts of open-net fish farming on wild salmon populations. Your party urges the federal government to transition out of open-net fish farming in coastal British Columbia.
- The Nisga'a Fisheries Management Program is one of the most renowned fish monitoring systems. The other parties may need to be reminded about the role you play collecting data for monitoring initiatives, like US-Canada Pacific Salmon Commission,ⁱ the Pacific Salmon Foundation,ⁱⁱ provincial and federal departments.
- The ingenuity of NLG's contemporary application of ancient technologies (fish wheels) is not only critical for the salmon, but it supports a thriving fishing

industry, provides training and employment opportunities for your citizens. Ensure that Nisga'a citizens continue to have a role in the Plan.

- Established under the Nisga'a Treaty with contributions from both NLG and Canada, the Lisims Fisheries Conservation Trust (the Trust) is used to promote conservation and protection of Nass area fish species, which includes these efforts to rebuild salmon stocks; however, in this scenario, the Trust is temporarily unable to accommodate new funding requests.
- Funding for the development and implementation of the Plan should come from the provincial and federal governments.
- **As you develop your proposal**, be creative and think about what changes you would like to see happen. Use your party's guidance to decide what to include in your proposal. Do your own research – find other fish and wildlife management plans online and review the footnotes in your scenario/mandate, and additional resources listed below.

RESOURCE LIST

- WATCH: *DFO Stock Assessments Explainer*: <https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/videos/eval-assess-eng.html>
- WATCH: *NLG Fish Wheel Explainer*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Pouv-6buUo>
- NLG Fisheries FAQ: <https://www.nisgaanation.ca/faq/fisheries>
- Andrea Reid's *Learning from Indigenous knowledge holders on the state and future of wild Pacific salmon* (see pg. 732 summarizing Elders concerns in Nass area): <https://www.facetsjournal.com/doi/pdf/10.1139/facets-2021-0089>
- Andrea Reid's *Indigenous Systems of Management for Culturally and Ecologically Resilient Pacific Salmon Fisheries* (see pgs. 195-196 for Nisga'a fish wheel information): <https://academic.oup.com/bioscience/article/71/2/186/6028542>
- Pacific Salmon Foundation's *Nass River Salmon Fishery Report Card Summary*: <https://psf.ca/slug/nass-river-salmon-fishery-report-card/>
- Pacific Salmon Explorer Mapping Tool – Nass Region (explore current and future habitat pressures): <https://salmonexplorer.ca/#!/nass&to=watersheds-map>

ⁱ <https://www.psc.org/about-us/history-purpose/>

ⁱⁱ <https://bookdown.org/salmonwatersheds/tech-report/regions.html#nass-region>