

Cohen announces participants in Fraser River sockeye salmon inquiry

BY SCOTT SIMPSON, VANCOUVER SUN APRIL 15, 2010 10:19 AM



Sockeye salmon.

Photograph by: ., .

VANCOUVER - The Cohen Commission announced Thursday that 20 groups have been awarded standing for its inquiry into the decline of sockeye salmon in the Fraser River.

In all, some 52 groups have unique or shared standing to make oral submissions to the commission, propose and cross examine witnesses.

The governments of Canada and British Columbia, Pacific Salmon Commission, BC Salmon Farmers Society, Seafood Producers Association of B.C. and Rio Tinto Alcan have individual standing to make oral submissions to the commission, propose and cross examine witnesses.

Others including aboriginal tribal groups and fishing societies along the Fraser, environmentalists and sport and commercial fishers, have been awarded shared standings under titles such as First Nations Coalition and Conservation Coalition and will have to share funding resources available through the commission.

Commission counsel Brian Wallace said in a press release that it appears the sockeye inquiry received more applications for standing than any prior federal commission of inquiry.

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