



FREQUENT ASKED QUESTIONS: FISH DAY

Due to the inconsistencies of previous Fish Day procedures, we have been directed back to the *Opetchesaht Fisheries Law (1992)*. As a council, we are elected to follow policy. These are the most recent policies agree upon by the community. Until the community amends these policies, these are the ones to follow.

Do we have a Fisheries Manager?

- We are pleased to announce we have hired a Biologist/Fisheries Manager, Graham Murrell on a term position. In his position, he will be mentoring our Fish Escapement Manager, Leon Lauder. We don't have the specific *Fisheries Manager* position at Hupačasath First Nation this year.

How will I find out about Fish Day?

- At Hupačasath, we send out a notice delivered on reserve, online and via email to let people know of the weekly fishing plans.

How is Fish Day determined?

- Fish Day is determined at the Round Table discussions on Thursdays. From those discussions the fish plans are set for commercial and communal fisheries for both Hupačasath and Tseshaht.



When is Fish Day?

- As we can't accurately predict how much fish will come in from our fisherman, the following decision was made:

If there is a reasonable amount caught we would distribute to community members present at Fish Day. Distribution of fish will be at the Hupačasath House of Gathering on **Sunday Morning**.

If there isn't a reasonable amount caught, Elders & Disabled persons will be taken care of by our community fisherman.

I am unable to attend fish day, can I designate someone to pick up my fish for me?

- In the Opetchesaht Fisheries Law, you must **be present and participate** to receive your equal share of fish.

"Elders and disabled persons and children under 12 years of age do not have to assist in order to obtain a fair share"

- According to policy, only Elders and disabled person have the ability to assign a designate for fish pick-up, the written authorization should be in prior to 1:00pm on Fridays.

I live out of town, how do I receive a fair share of fish?

- According to the policy, you must be present to receive your fair share of fish.

"The fish caught shall be divided equally to all Opetchesaht **present** and who have participated"