



SURVEY QUESTIONS

Below are thirteen questions related to the Nechako Environmental Enhancement Fund. The purpose of the questionnaire is to stimulate discussion about environmental health in the Cheslatta and Nechako watersheds, in particular in the context of the use of the fund. Many topics are presented in the series of questions but one objective of the questionnaire is to identify any other issues and interests. The Management Committee will appreciate receiving completed questionnaires, but the primary goal is to facilitate a discussion. You do not need to sign returned questionnaires.

1. Which of the NEEF MC objectives is most important to you? Rate in order of importance with 1 as most important.

Options that address enhancement related to flow changes in the Cheslatta River and Nechako River

Options that seek to rehabilitate fish habitat and fish populations in the Cheslatta River and Nechako River.

Options that promote education and stewardship of water in the Nechako and Cheslatta watersheds.

Options related to improving how water flow regulation decisions are made in consideration of all environmental aspects.

2. Are there other objectives the NEEF MC should consider? If so what are they?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

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3. Listed below are subjects related to the 4 objectives. Rate them in order of importance (1=most important).

a) Options that address enhancement related to flow changes.

Reduce high summer flow

Mitigate flooding

Create a spring freshet

Promote natural dynamics (ie flow variation, both high and low flow years)

Other: _____

b) Options that rehabilitate fish and fish habitat.

Water temperature - protection for salmon

Enhance salmon and trout physical habitat

Rehabilitate sturgeon habitat

Sturgeon hatchery

Trout hatchery – stocking of lakes and rivers

Improve health of tributary streams (ie water quality and juvenile fish habitat)

Other: _____

c) Options that promote education and water stewardship.

School age education programs

Collect and distribute information about the health of the river (ie to inform future decisions)

University and College level research and education opportunities

Research and monitoring (ie identify trends and issues over time)

Other: _____

d) Options that improve how water flow management decisions are made.

a single organization with broad mandate

Engage independent external experts to make specific decisions

Community based planning processes (ie public and First Nation and agency participation)

Government led decision framework

Other: _____



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4. Given the objectives above, what does "Nechako Environmental Enhancement" mean to you? Rate in order of relevance (1 = most relevant).

Increasing fish and wildlife specific habitat

Preserving species diversity

Recreating past conditions as much as possible

Maximizing fish productivity within existing conditions

Changing the existing flow schedule

Other: _____

5. Other than flow related changes what do you think is the most important issue in the Cheslatta and/or Nechako watersheds? Rate in order of importance.

Shoreline (riparian) vegetation/habitat

Water quality

Erosion and sediment

In river habitat for fish

Other: _____

6. What do you think the term a "healthy river" means? Indicate the three most important features of a "healthy river".

7. What parts of the Cheslatta or Nechako watershed do you think are particularly in need of help?

8. Of the list below what do you think is most important? Rate in order of importance (1 = most important).

certain kinds of fish (ie sport fish): _____

diversity of fish species

Endangered or rare fish species: _____

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9. Of the list below what do you think is most important? Rate in order of importance (1 = most important).

In river fish habitat

Riparian or shoreline habitat

Land use adjacent to river

Land use along tributaries

Other _____

10. Of the list below what do you think is most important? Rate in order of importance (1 = most important).

flow pattern with high flow in spring only

certain flow targets at certain times of year (ie minimum and maximum flow)

diversity of flow pattern/volume between years

Other _____

11. What options, in addition to removing high flows from the Skins Lake Spillway, are available to improve aquatic ecosystem health of the Murray/Cheslatta river and lake system?

12. What funding mechanisms do you think are appropriate for NEEF? Rate in order of preference (1 = most preferred).

A legacy fund; only interest is spent

Capital project(s)

Operating expenses; fund used over time as required

Other _____

13. What mechanisms for implementation of rehabilitation options do you think are appropriate for the NEEF? Rate in order of preference (1=most preferred).

Wait for partners who are interested in investing those in options.

Appoint a committee to seek funds to leverage Rio Tinto Alcan matching funds.

Assign the responsibility of finding matching funds to government.

Other: _____