



DEC 11 2006

Mr. Paul LeBlond
Chair
Pacific Fisheries Resource Conservation Council
590-800 Burrard Street
Vancouver, British Columbia
V6Z 2G7

Dear Mr. LeBlond:

Thank you for your correspondence of October 13, 2006, on behalf of the Pacific Fisheries Resource Conservation Council (PFRCC), providing me with a copy of the PFRCC's October 2006 report entitled, "Advisory: Implementing the Habitat and Ecosystem Components of DFO's *Wild Salmon Policy*."

I understand that the PFRCC released this report at a media event at the Adams River on October 19, 2006, and appreciate the added profile that this public release gave to the *Wild Salmon Policy* (WSP).

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) staff in the Pacific Region advise me that the eight-step implementation framework included as an appendix to the report will assist them in implementing Strategies 2 and 3 of the *Wild Salmon Policy*. They also note that several of the report's recommendations have already been undertaken, as a result of discussions and joint DFO-PFRCC consultative activities earlier in 2006. Indeed, WSP Strategies 2 and 3 involving the development of habitat and ecosystem values and indicators are being integrated. The monitoring framework has been broken into two tiers: development of the broad-scale, pressure indicators and development of fine-scale status indicators. DFO is currently holding consultations throughout British Columbia on this approach. In addition, Strategy 4, of the WSP Integrated Strategic Planning, will also support an integrated approach by ensuring that monitoring is matched with management actions to achieve the habitat objectives of the WSP.

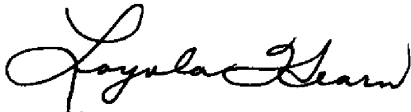
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Lastly, you encourage the department to enter formal agreements with the Province of British Columbia and the Yukon Government for data access and sharing. DFO staff in the Pacific Region are currently working with provincial colleagues to share data and are working toward the creation of a formal agreement to cover this ongoing activity.

Again, thank you for submitting this thorough report on the current stage of WSP implementation. I appreciate the ongoing efforts of you and your fellow Council members.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Loyola Hearn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Loyola" being more prominent than the last name "Hearn".

Loyola Hearn, P.C., M.P.

c.c.: Mr. Randy Kamp, M.P.