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May 27, 2011

VIA EMAIL ONLY

Ratcliff & Company
500 - 221 West Esplanade
North Vancouver BC V7M 3J3

Attention: Gregory McDade Q.C.

Dear Mr. McDade:

**Re: Cohen Commission - (MOE)
Response to Gregory McDade's enquiry of FFSSBC Fish Health Case 2010-1100**

Per your request, I have contacted the Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC (FFSBC) and inquired about whether *Gyrodactylus salaris* was found in case 2010-110.

I am advised by the FFSBC that the Fish Health Case you refer to (2010-1100) is not a positive finding for *Gyrodactylus salaris* but rather a programming error in the FFSBC's, Production and Release Information System (PARIS). When the Fish Health component of the PARIS system was built just over 1.5 years ago, an error in the drop down menu allowed for the selection of two *Gyrodactylus* tests: 1) *Gyrodactylus spp*, and 2) *G. salaris*. A FFSBC administrative staff member entered the information for this case report and was unaware of the difference between *Gyrodactylus spp* and *G. salaris*. In this specific case (2010-1100), the wrong test was selected (*G. salaris* instead of *Gyrodactylus spp*.) and this resulted in the *G. salaris* test being printed in the "TEST" section of the report. This programming error was fixed in April, 2011.

I am further advised that *Gyrodactylus spp*. are common ectoparasites that occur in fish that are reared in earthen ponds or lake netpens in BC freshwater. The FFSBC is well aware of the implications of a positive finding of *G. salaris* and that it is a reportable disease.

In the "Comments" section of the report you will read under the "Results" that *Tryconphyra spp.* was the actual parasite identified. As well, you should also note in the same section

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under the "Presumptive Findings" that Bacterial Gill disease was determined to be the cause of the mortality in the submitted samples.

I hope this explanation clarifies the reporting error and as a result provides a justification for why the CFIA was not contacted by the FFSSBC.

Sincerely,



Tara Callan
Barrister and Solicitor

TC/ce