

From: Jepps, Shelley <Shelley.Jepps@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: Monday, August 11, 2008 12:44 PM
To: Leone, Nick <Nick.Leone@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Subject: FW: Cecil Island Fish Farm Inspection

As requested.

-----Original Message-----

From: Jepps, Shelley
Sent: August 1, 2008 8:17 AM
To: Hoyseth, Kerra
Subject: RE: Cecil Island Fish Farm Inspection

Hi Kerra,

As Nick is likely not available for this discussion I thought I'd just give you my opinion on first steps.

- get the CEAA screening for the site (with the QA/QC'd DEPOMOD)
- get the Provincial licensed amount
- get the Provincial sampling data
- review above
- determine if next steps seem appropriate.

If you would like to discuss, need more information or have other thoughts please give me a call. I will be at my desk all day. If all looks good to you then I will let Kirsty know.

Thank you,
Shelley

-----Original Message-----

From: Hoyseth, Kerra
Sent: July 29, 2008 3:55 PM
To: Jepps, Shelley; Leone, Nick
Subject: RE: Cecil Island Fish Farm Inspection

Shelley - I can meet Thur/Fri about this. Do we need to involve Nick? Up to you, Nick.

Kerra

From: Jepps, Shelley
Sent: July 29, 2008 2:57 PM
To: Leone, Nick; Hoyseth, Kerra
Cc: Thomson, Andrew
Subject: FW: Cecil Island Fish Farm Inspection

Hi Nick and Kerra,

FYI - see e-mail trail - start at the bottom.

Perhaps we should have a Habitat chat during which I can provide you with my perspective on next steps - I have spoken with Kirsty briefly. How does Friday morning work for both? Or Thursday afternoon?

Shelley

-----Original Message-----

From: Walde, Kirsty
Sent: July 29, 2008 1:59 PM

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To: Jepps, Shelley
Subject: FW: Cecil Island Fish Farm Inspection

Shelley,

If you start at the bottom of this email you will get a good understanding of the background of the file. I attended the site at Cecil last week and now am getting feedback from Alex and crew. I have been told that you are the Aquaculture contact and I would like to get your feedback on how you would like to proceed with this (if at all)...

Please give me a shout as soon as you are able to speak about this further.

Thanks,

Kirsty Walde

Fishery Officer / Agent Des Pêches

Fisheries and Oceans Canada / Pêches et Océans Canada

Port Hardy, BC

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E-Mail/Courrier électronique: waldek@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca

-----Original Message-----

From: Alexandra Morton [mailto:wildorca@island.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 29, 2008 8:23 AM
To: Walde, Kirsty; monam@namgis.bc.ca; Brian Wadhams
Cc: Plummer, Greg; Will Soltau
Subject: Re: Cecil Island Fish Farm Inspection

Kirsty

Thank you for this report and thank you for your attention to this. The bubbling however, was occurring before the nets were pulled, which is why you were notified. What do you mean by "pre-sterilized" The nets that they pull are craned onto the barge that had been pre-sterilized While I would like to believe the Jensen's (Eric and Laurie) I think DFO should send a camera down and have a look at the seafloor under this farm. Greenway Sound was closed to commercial fishing in the 1960's because it was recognized as a Chinook rearing area. My neighbour Bill Proctor notified DFO about this in the '60's and was part of the reason it was closed.

This farm site was bubbling last winter and I took bacterial samples of the rising oil. I cultured Vibrio, Enterobacter and Serratia liquefaciens.

Alexandra Morton

On 7/28/08 11:15 AM, "Walde, Kirsty" <Kirsty.Walde@dfo-mpo.gc.ca> wrote:

Good morning,

I just got off the phone with Mona Madill from the Namgis Band and wanted to send out a quick email to keep everyone in the loop about this topic.

Officer Dickinson and I attended the Cecil Island Fish Farm site on Wednesday morning and were met by the Site Manager, Eric Jensen. We were given a tour of the site and specifically asked him the questions that were discussed earlier in this email chain, specifically about potential fish in the pens, bubbling and odours.

Mr. Jensen was quite open to answer any questions that we had and had expressed that he had been unable to answer the questions of those individuals that had attended the site on Tuesday as communications were to come through the higher management levels of Mainstream.

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Through discussions with him we were able to determine the following:

1. The last harvest date for fish at the site was June 18, 2008. The farm was fallowed at that time.
2. No salmon were or have been in the pens since that date. This was supported by Dive Reports that we viewed that indicated no morts in pens (we have copy) and no evidence of any salmon were seen in the remaining 4 pens during the time of our inspection (2 hours in duration).
3. There were some perch and some herring seen in the remaining netted pens feeding off the biomass on nets. The majority of these fish were small enough to fit through the mesh. Jensen did mention that they make attempts as they remove the nets to release any of the remaining small fish as they crane the nets onto the barge.
4. There was some limited odour present on the site consistent with that of decaying sea life. There was not an overwhelming smell, but obvious where they had removed some of the nets onto the barge and the "deadmen" concrete blocks that were covered in tunicates, anemones, mussels, etc.
5. Mainstream had pulled five of the nets the previous week (July 14-18) and did have people onsite at that time.
6. The delay in the time between fallowing the farm (June 18, 2008) until July 14, 2008 when they began pulling the nets was solely due to the availability of the barge that was being used at other farms.
7. Mainstream had no one on site between this time as they had a fallowed farm, no fish in nets and did not have reason to be there until they planned on pulling nets.
8. Three (3) nets were pulled on July 23 morning and they were planning on pulling the remaining four (4) that same afternoon.

The nets that they pull are craned onto the barge that had been pre-sterilized and shipped into Port Hardy for sterilizing and steam cleaning.

9. There did appear to be a very large set of mussels present on the nets and within the bay around the farm. Jensen mentioned that it had been an extraordinary year for the growth of mussels at the site.
10. There was some bubbling present, mostly in the pens that had just had the nets removed (more so than the netted pens). Jensen mentioned that the bubbling was likely the biomass settling in the pens after the removal of nets (mussels, etc sinking to bottom of pen). We did try to capture this on the camera.
11. The site had divers down that morning and the day prior and the subsequent dive reports indicated that no fish were in the pens and no morts were present in the pens either. We have copies of this report.

All in all, Jensen said that there had been nothing out of the ordinary that had transpired at the site on Tuesday, July 22. They had not pulled any nets that day and were just having the dive surveys done prior to prepare for the net removal. We did take photos of the barge, removed nets, netted pens, bubbling and the entire site. The issue of the bubbling/off gassing will be further looked into to try and identify if it is solely biomass settling or if there are other reasons.

For your information, I did contact Lori Jensen at Mainstream to determine whether the site was fallowed and to determine the last harvest date as this was pertinent information required for the inspection.

If there are questions that have not been answered, I would be happy to follow up with Mainstream.

We will be in continuing contact with Lori Jensen at Mainstream, Alex Millar from MLWAP and Dan Dwyer from Conservation Officer Service.

I do have photos that I am still waiting to download from the site inspection. Please call me if you have any further questions and concerns.

Kirsty Walde
Fishery Officer / Agent Des Pêches

Fisheries and Oceans Canada / Pêches et Océans Canada

Port Hardy, BC

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-----Original Message-----

From: Alexandra Morton [<mailto:wildorca@island.net>]
Sent: Wednesday, July 23, 2008 5:45 AM
To: Will Soltau; monam@namgis.bc.ca; Walde, Kirsty
Cc: 'Brian Wadhams'
Subject: Re: Tuesday

It was Cecil. You are right Will about the bubbles last spring. Yesterday it was inside the pens. After I called Brian Wadhams the tug with the crane on the barge was there within an hour and crew started to arrive. The site was deserted previously. I got a little video of it.

a

On 7/22/08 9:39 PM, "Will Soltau" <wsoltau@livingoceans.org> wrote:

Hi Mona,
Anyone get out to see what's going on at Cecil today? I thought Alex said earlier this spring that there was some off gassing there, bubbles coming up in the water. Was it at Cecil, Alex, or was it at Cypress? I will give you a call first thing in the morning.

Will Soltau
Local Coordinator
Salmon Farming Campaign
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Healthy Oceans. Healthy Communities.

From: Mona Madill [<mailto:MonaM@namgis.bc.ca>]
Sent: Tuesday, July 22, 2008 12:09 PM
To: Walde, Kirsty
Cc: Brian Wadhams; Will Soltau; wildorca@island.net
Subject: Tuesday

Hi Kirsty;
There is a HUGE problem at Cecil Island fish farm....DFO needs to go and

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look at the site, there is something wrong out there I think the fish are dead out there and there is no one on site, no attendants and that is a huge problem. First Nations are up in arms about this. Please send someone out ASAP

Thank you very much

Mona Madill

Fisheries Office Assistant

'Namgis First Nation

PO Box 210

Alert Bay, BC V0N1A0

Phone: 1-250-974-5556(ext # 3253)

Fax: 1-250-974-5900

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