

Klein, Susan

From: Robbins, Tom [Tom.Robbins@dfo-mpo.gc.ca]
Sent: 2010-Oct-01 4:47 PM
To: Nener, Jennifer; Savard, Greg; Richards, Laura; Antcliffe, Bonnie
Cc: Wilson, Lisa; Hamilton, Wellsley; Saunders, Mark
Subject: Media lines: WSP review
Attachments: ML_WSP_review2.doc

Hello everyone,

These media lines are a long time coming and I apologize. They were originally drafted this summer, but I felt they didn't address the issue of the review directly.

I have rewritten them and received input from Lisa Wilson and Wellsley Hamilton. Mark Saunders is currently reviewing them.

I am trying to push these as quick as possible, which is why I am concurrently sending the document to you all. If you have comments, could you please send them back to me? I will coordinate change (and keep you in the loop) before I forward to the RD Comm and RDG. If you prefer to make them on hard copy, I can run over and collect them when they're ready.

Thanks for your help,

Tom Robbins

Senior Communications Advisor | Agent principal des communications
Suite 200 - 401 Burrard Street

Fisheries and Oceans Canada | Pêches et Océans Canada

Vancouver, Canada V6C 3S4

Tom.Robbins@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Telephone | Téléphone 604-666-7120

Facsimile | Télécopieur 604-666-1847

Cellular | Cellulaire 604-809-6346

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MEDIA LINES

WILD SALMON POLICY REVIEW

Issue

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) committed to initiate an independent review of the success of the Wild Salmon Policy (WSP), which came into effect in 2005, in achieving its broad goals and objectives within 5 years of its adoption. Once the review is complete, the findings will be used to revise the implementation of the policy. As many of the Department's regional staff involved with wild salmon management are presently engaged in responding to requests from the Cohen Commission, implementation of the policy will continue; however, an independent review of WSP will not be undertaken at this time.

The Pacific Fisheries Resource Conservation Council (PFRCC) recently undertook consultations with nineteen stakeholder groups and individuals not actively engaged in the WSP process and summarized their advice in a report on a recommended framework for undertaking an independent evaluation of WSP implementation. The report and PFRCC advisory, published in January, did not provide recommendations on the scope or focus of a review. Instead it provided ten steps that could be used to build a review framework. This report and an informal internal review being undertaken by DFO's WSP Team will inform DFO's approach to the review.

Media lines

- DFO's current priority is to contribute fully and meaningfully to the Commission. As such, an independent review of WSP will not be undertaken in 2010.
- A formal independent review will take place following the conclusion of the Cohen Commission. This review will consider recommendations from the Cohen commission.
- DFO will continue to conduct annual post-season reviews of its WSP implementation work plans for stock assessment, habitat protection and salmon population enhancement.
- DFO maintains an incremental and phased approach to implementing the policy. WSP is complex, therefore all elements of the policy cannot be implemented at once—different aspects of the policy are being implemented at different times.
- Over the past five years, DFO has focused on laying the scientific foundation of the policy and building partnerships with First Nations, environmental non-government organizations and stakeholders who have been advising on the best processes to implement WSP.
- Conservation Units (CUs) have been identified in British Columbia and the Yukon, and a modernized stock assessment framework and methodology for identifying key habitat have been developed.

- While there is still more work to be done, the policy is currently informing salmon management actions and decisions within the Department.

Spokesperson(s)

Mark Saunders, 250-756-7145

Prepared by:

<i>Communications Contact:</i> Tom Robbins 604-666-7120	<i>Program Contact:</i> Lisa Wilson 604-666-3657
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