

From: Thomson, Andrew
Sent: Tuesday, June 3, 2008 8:44 AM
To: Klaver, March <March.Klaver@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Subject: Re: Effluent: processors and vessels

Good catch. I would just get mark to make contact with the ec person

Andrew Thomson
Director - Aquaculture Management Division
Sent from my Wireless Device

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

From: Klaver, March
To: Thomson, Andrew
Sent: Mon Jun 02 18:16:31 2008
Subject: FW: Effluent: processors and vessels

Hi Andy,
I'm not sure what action you are thinking with regards to this, but I have found an appropriate linkage for Mark. I don't really think our focus is directly linked to this, it's more from the environmental/fish health perspective. This is from EC's December 2006 newsletter.

Fish Processing Plant Effluent Assessment

The first meeting of the national Fish Processing Plant Effluent Assessment Working Group was held in Ottawa, Nov 9. Presently represented on the Steering Group are: Canadian Food Inspection Agency; Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Dalhousie University; University of New Brunswick; Fisheries Council of Canada. Environment Canada leads the Steering Group. The assessment will take place over the next three years and will determine the environmental risks associated with effluents from fish processing facilities across Canada and to determine possible mitigative measures. The effort will focus on characterization of fish processing plant effluents, extending work that has been focused on Atlantic Region plants to other parts of the country, measuring the impacts in receiving environments and exploring some pollution reduction techniques. As part of the project, a questionnaire will be sent soon to the approximately 1100 plants across the country to begin a database on processing plant characteristics.

For further information on this project, please contact Benoit Lalonde at (902) 426-2295 or benoit.lalonde@ec.gc.ca

Shall I send this along to Mark? or should I contact Benoit?

March

Please note new email address effective March 10, 2008: March.Klaver@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
March Klaver, MSc., RPBio.
A/Finfish Aquaculture Officer
L'Officier d'Aquaculture de Finfish par interim
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Absence of evidence is not evidence of absence

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

From: Sheppard, Mark AL:EX [<mailto:Mark.Sheppard@gov.bc.ca>]

Sent: June 2, 2008 1:35 PM

To: Klaver, March; Higgins, Mark; LewisJ@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca; AdkinsB@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca; Sullivandixiecc@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca; Thomson, Andrew; Reid, Rebecca

Cc: Lewis, Ron AL:EX

Subject: Effluent: processors and vessels

Dear Colleagues,

I have spoken to some of you directly about this but, ultimately, I hope to propose a 'meeting of the minds' on the topic. Prior to that however, may I ask that individual agencies (DFO, AHbr, ADBr, MOE, BCCDC, CFIA) please conduct an introspective assessment of the topic and formulate a response Re:

Does your agency already have a formal perspective, or jurisdiction, or policy, or standard, or enforceable regulation that specifically addresses the biocontainment and effluent treatment of finfish harvest vessels and processing plants in BC (i.e. blood water)?

In addition, may I ask that you please compile a brief response and pass it along to me so I can educate myself and coordinate a more fruitful and efficient round table inter-agency meeting on the topic?

Background:

- * the 1992+ and 2001+ outbreaks of IHN virus (and the endorsed movement of carcasses and harvest salmon) resulted in confusion, costly delays, media events and criticism; much of this should be preventable if we plan now for viral management,
- * various gov't documents and recommendations are in circulation re: processing affected fish, yet which are official and enforceable (i.e. regulated), and none apply to wild sockeye,
- * wild and farmed processors and vessel operators need to held to the same standards,
- * major risk factor(s) for viral transmission implicate harvest boats and processing,
- * processors seem willing to investigate effluent systems yet they need guidance with respect to accepted standards and goals before infra-structure and investment is made,
- * industry has posed the question and is asking NOW that this issue be clarified before an outbreak emergency arises,
- * New Brunswick has a mandatory effluent treatment, permit and audit program for vessels and processors to control ISA virus; Norway too?

My sense is that vessel operators and processors need government agencies to communicate (or reach consensus on) standards and/or permit requirements. Of course IHNv, VHSV and ISAv are the latest concerns but if effluent treatment standards become mandatory or routine in BC, there may be opportunity to reduce indigenous bacterial outflow as well (i.e. Renibacterium, Piscirickettsia, Aeromonas, etc) = all helpful for fish health maintenance.

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Mark

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