

SITUATION REPORT (INTERNAL)

Update # 4

Date / Time: October 21, 2011	# of PREOC's Activated: 0	Event: ISAV
Operational Period #: October 21, 2011	PEP Task #: N/A	Name:
Operational Time: 8:00 – 16:00	<i>New information in italics</i>	Function: Planning (Situation Reporting Unit)

EVENT OVERVIEW:

- CFIA received two notifications of infectious salmon anaemia virus (ISAV) in wild sockeye salmon in British Columbia (B.C.)
- Two of 48 wild sockeye salmon, submitted by Simon Fraser University (SFU) to the Atlantic Veterinary College (AVC), which is an OIE reference laboratory for the ISAV, were interpreted as positive. Dr. Kibenge from the Atlantic Veterinary College notified the CFIA of his test results on October 15, 2011. Simon Fraser University released the test results to the media on October 17, 2011.
- Dr. Kibenge notified the CFIA on October 17, 2011 that he is testing new finfish samples from B.C. for ISAV.
- On October 20, 2011, Dr. Kibenge notified the CFIA that tissues from a coho salmon that was part of another set of samples from B.C were interpreted as a positive.
- This laboratory is not part of the National Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory System (NAAHLS). Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is responsible for the NAAHLS.
- The detection does not meet CFIA's case definition for interpreting test results as confirmed positive for infection with ISAV. The finding remains suspect by CFIA. Even if the NAAHLS is able to confirm this suspect finding as positive, this case will likely remain suspect to CFIA given chain of custody issues.
- It seems that Dr. Kibenge did not follow the OIE's Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals 2011, which defines a positive PCR as presumptive and lists the processes that need to be followed to confirm ISA.
- DFO has also issues with the controls associated to the samples.
- CFIA is gathering more information before making a final decision on the reporting of this finding currently considered as suspect to the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE).

CURRENT STATUS:

On October 18, 2011, CFIA Operations staff visited Dr. Routledge at SFU to quarantine and collect samples for further testing. Approximately 336 smolts were collected by SFU staff in May and June 2011; approximately 288 of these samples were provided to CFIA on October 18th. These 288 samples arrived in 2 shipments at the Gulf Fisheries Centre (GFC) – DFO, Moncton, on October 20th. The additional 48 smolts are located at a private residence in Nanaimo, BC, and also require further testing. Operations staff *has made contact with the owner of the samples and will pick up and deliver the samples to the DFO Pacific Biological Centre (PBC) in Nanaimo, today. CFIA has confirmed that the kidneys from these 48 smolts held at the private residence in Nanaimo were removed, and were located at the PBC. The kidneys have been sent to the GFC in Moncton.*

CFIA has confirmed that approximately 50 smolts, collected by the University of British Columbia (UBC) in May and June 2011 are held at UBC. Operations staff plans to pick these samples up on October 24th, and will ship them to GFC in Moncton. CFIA has also been made aware that an unknown number of samples, from which a second positive notification was made, were sent to and are currently located at the Atlantic Veterinary College. Operations staff is in process of confirming the sample date, location, and species of these samples.

Samples collected by SFU from 2009 and 2010 have been quarantined on site.

ACTIONS PLANNED FOR NEXT OPERATIONAL PERIOD:

- 1) A small team, which includes staff from the Aquatic Animal Health Division (AAHD), CFIA's Science Branch and DFO, is considering the assessment of the laboratory at the Atlantic Veterinary College.
- 2) Samples will also need to be collected at Dr. Kibenge's laboratory at the Atlantic Veterinary College on October 20-21 by the CFIA. A discussion with the NAAHLS laboratory at Moncton may be necessary, depending on the type of samples that will be collected.

- 3) Operations staff plans to collect samples currently held at UBC on October 24, 2011, for shipment to the GFC.
- 4) Operations staff to obtain further information on unknown number of samples sent to the Atlantic Veterinary College.
- 5) Operations staff to pick up 48 smolts currently held at a private residence in Nanaimo, and deliver to the PBC today.
- 6) One of the students who collected some of the samples in BC will send GPS coordinates of all collection locations to CFIA.
- 7) For the second notification, CFIA will proceed with the usual investigation processes. CFIA will contact the individual who collected the samples on October 21-24 to get the following information: collection dates and sites and collected species.
- 8) CFIA received on October 20-21 multiple requests for additional samples of fish that the Agency collected from various researchers. CFIA is preparing to respond to these requests.
- 9) It was decided that the samples collected by the Crown (DFO and CFIA) will remain under quarantine until a decision about their disposal is made.

RESOURCE COMMITMENTS:

-NAAHP staff in BC Operations will be required to continue communicating with SFU and UBC to collect remaining samples.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL / STAKEHOLDERS / REGULATED

International

-Samples were also sent to A. Nylund at the University of Bergen in Norway. AAHD is drafting a letter to be sent to A. Nylund to find out the circumstances under which these samples were sent (e.g. who sent these samples, when, how and why).

-Dr. Kibenge confirmed on October 20 that he did not send the samples to Norway. CFIA and DFO continue to investigate.

Trade Partners

-To ensure our trade partners are aware, CFIA Policy and Programs Branch (PPB) is pro-actively providing information to Posts and CFIA veterinarians in the key countries (China, Japan). CFIA is requesting they ensure trade partners are aware of the situation and can respond to questions if they arise.

-PPB has scheduled a meeting with our veterinary liaison in Brussels and aquatic animal health contacts at DG SANCO in the EU for Monday morning. The information bulletin has been provided to them in advance.

-PPB briefed the US contacts (the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), US Fish and Wildlife Service and National Oceanographic and Atmospheric (NOAA)) on October 20 and 21. Media lines and links to the information bulletin have been forwarded to these organizations.

-PPB was contacted directly by Officials for Chile (Sernepesca) and provided them a copy of the information bulletin.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Communications

-At AAHD, Dr. Cornelius Kiley is the main spokesperson for the CFIA on this topic. Dr. Nathalie Bruneau is the main contact person for communication issues and questions related to the NAAHP.

-AAHD is reviewing questions and answers drafted by Public Affairs.

-Public Affairs (Bryan Blom and Tammy Jarbeau) are drafting communication products. Dr. Nathalie Bruneau is the technical advisor for these products.

-CFIA briefed the President on the situation on October 20.

-The information bulletin was approved and posted on CFIA's website on October 21.

-CFIA Public Affairs briefed Atlantic Veterinary College Public Affairs on October 21.

-CFIA Public Affairs will send the information bulletin to the ListServ.

-DFO will post a link to the CFIA's information bulletin on their website.

-CFIA Public Affairs is finalizing the fact sheet on ISA and it will be posted on CFIA's website on October 21-24.

ATTACHMENTS

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APPROVED BY:



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**Situation Report Sent:
Date: October 21, 2011 Time:**

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