

SITUATION REPORT (INTERNAL)

Update # 17

Date / Time: November 25, 2011	# of PREOC's Activated: 0	Event: ISAV
Operational Period #: November 25, 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:

Note: Information included in situation report #13 was removed.

-The CFIA received three notifications of infectious salmon anaemia virus (ISAV) in wild salmon in British Columbia (B.C.). Two of these notifications originated from the Atlantic Veterinary College (AVC), which is not part of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)'s National Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory System (NAAHLS). The third notification came from the University of Bergen in Norway.

-Notification #1: two of 48 wild sockeye salmon, submitted by Simon Fraser University (SFU) to 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. The SFU released the test results to the media on October 17, 2011.

-Notification #2: on October 17, Dr. Kibenge notified the CFIA that he was testing a second set of samples from 11 fish collected from a different area in BC which included coho salmon. On October 27, Dr. Kibenge submitted his final laboratory analysis to CFIA in which a total of three samples were interpreted by Dr. Kibenge as positive.

-Notification #3: gill samples from the same 48 fish were sent to Dr. Nylund at the University of Bergen in Norway for ISAV testing. Dr. Nylund provided his test results to the Agency: all gills tested negative. He repeated testing on certain gills and could not confirm the presence of ISAV.

-These detections do not meet CFIA's case definition for interpreting test results as confirmed positive for infection with ISAV. The findings remain suspect by CFIA. The samples from which the detections originated are being tested for ISAV at the NAAHLS to corroborate (or not) these findings.

CURRENT STATUS:

Note: Information included in situation reports #2, #3, #4, #5, #8, #13 and #15 was removed.

Sample Set #3:

This is the third batch of samples that Ms. Morton has sent to Dr. Kibenge's laboratory at the AVC for analysis. The submission consists of 5 herring hearts and 5 sockeye smolt hearts and gills. Dr. Kibenge has tested the samples and did not detect ISAV. This is not an official notification as per the Agency's definition. The CFIA picked up these 15 samples from Dr. Kibenge's laboratory at the AVC and they are being stored at the Moncton laboratory.

Notification #4:

Another set of samples was sent to Dr. Nylund in Norway for ISAV testing. The submitter of the samples notified the CFIA on November 25th of Dr. Nylund's report for the testing of this set of samples. The results in this report are negative, even if the submitter claims otherwise.

ACTIONS PLANNED FOR NEXT OPERATIONAL PERIOD:

Note: Information included in situation reports #2, #3, #4, #5, #6, #7, #8, #13, #15 and #16 was removed.

1) The laboratories directly involved with this investigation agreed to an assessment. A small team, which includes staff from the Aquatic Animal Health Division (AAHD), CFIA's Science Branch and DFO, is planning this assessment under the lead of CFIA's Science. Documents for the assessment of Dr. Kibenge's laboratory at the AVC were received electronically on November 14th. A small group of three people, including two representatives from the CFIA and a representative from the Animal Health Laboratory at the University of Guelph, conducted the on-site visit of the Moncton laboratory on November 17. *The same team conducted the on-site visit of Dr. Kibenge's laboratory at the AVC on November 18. The assessed laboratories will have the opportunity to check the facts gathered by the team. The draft report on the laboratory assessment will be reviewed by other experts before being finalized. The draft report is expected by Wednesday, November*

30th.

2) On October 20-21, CFIA received multiple requests from researchers to return the samples obtained by the Agency for further testing. The CFIA is continuing to look at these requests.

3) The CFIA also received a letter requesting samples to be returned from Ms. Morton's lawyer. CFIA Legal Counsel contacted Ms. Morton's lawyer on November 14th acknowledging receipt of this letter, and a response will be provided after a Decision Record has been developed. A second Decision Record will be developed in respect to samples under quarantine at SFU.

4) The NAAHLS Moncton laboratory is conducting tests on some of the different samples of fish. So far, the results for ISAV are negative but the testing is not yet complete. Tissue culture final results *should* be available *late Thursday, December 1st*.

5) A CFIA working group under the lead of Dr. Nathalie Bruneau is working on the potential requirements for surveillance activities and design for both wild and cultured fish in B.C. These discussions also include potential resource requirements, delivery options and planning. The proposal for surveillance activities in B.C., which includes design, collection, testing, delivery options, etc *was* sent internally at CFIA and NAAHLS for comments *earlier this week*. Broader consultations on this proposal will be planned.

6) The next situation report (#18) will be put together and sent out *next week*.

RESOURCE COMMITMENTS:

- NAAHP staff in BC Operations may be required to continue working with SFU, UBC and other parties to gather all available information on the samples regarding the chain of custody.
- BC Operations will develop two Decision Records with recommendations for the samples currently under the Crown's possession and the samples under quarantine. A decision committee will meet *early next week* to finalize the Decision Records.
- Working group to develop and conduct laboratory assessment at the laboratories directly involved with this investigation.
- Working group to develop an action plan for surveillance activities and design for both wild and cultured fish in B.C.
- Final report on this investigation to be written.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL / STAKEHOLDERS / REGULATED

Note: Information included in situation reports #10, #11, #12, #13 and #15 was removed.

-The CFIA provided an update on the ISAV situation, including the surveillance proposal, to Dr. Paul Kitching, the Chief Provincial Veterinarian for B.C., on November 25.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Note: Information included in situation reports #2, #3, #4, #5, #7, #8, #10, #11, #12, #13, #15, and #16 was removed.

Communications

-At AAHD, Dr. Cornelius Kiley is the main spokesperson for the CFIA on this topic.

-CFIA Public Affairs and AAHD worked on a communication piece about surveillance this week.

-CFIA Public Affairs received a request from senior management to prepare communication products similar to a technical briefing and news release about the final test results and surveillance for the end of next week.

ATTACHMENTS

-Timelines chart for ISA Notification #1 and #2 and sample taking flowchart attached.

-Incident Command Structure Western ERT attached.

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Situation Report Sent:

Date: November 25, 2011

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