

**Operations Committee Meeting
January 8, 2009
DRAFT
Record of Decisions**

Attendees: Angela Bate; Paul Macgillivray; Frank Quinn; Rebecca Reid;
Laura Richards; Barry Rosenberger; Paul Sprout; Andrew
Thomson; Sue Farlinger

Guests: Item #1 – Amy Mar
Item #2 – Amy Mar and Paul Ryall
Item #3 – Paul Ryall

1. Interim Response Plan for Aquatic Invasive Species (*Discussion*) – A. Bate/B. Rosenberger

Issue: A presentation was made on a proposed Response Plan for aquatic invasive species. The Plan serves to provide guidance to DFO staff on procedures following a new sighting or observation of an AIS. The objectives are to prevent and minimize introductions of AIS and, if possible, to contain their spread following an introduction. The Response Plan is a living document that will be revised to reflect new developments in national policies and adapt to changing circumstances in order to prevent and minimize introductions of AIS.

Next Steps: It was agreed that the proposed AIS Response Plan could be accepted as part of the regional AIS strategy, given that its primary purpose is to show how AIS would be identified and reported. It was noted that with no new resources towards AIS, the plan should focus on the communications and incident reporting process, rather than management measures to control or eradicate invasives. It was felt that this approach is consistent with the regional AIS strategy, as agreed in previous RMC discussions. As well, the following actions should be described as part of the AIS strategy: continue to build the information base, continue the risk assessments of identified species, and take measured strategic actions where feasible.

Responsibility: A. Bate

Deadline: April 24, 2009 (completed)

2. Wild Salmon Priority Initiatives and Strategy 4 (*Discussion*) – A. Bate/A. Thomson

Issue: Amy Mar and Paul Ryall made a presentation on WSP. Members appreciated the overall update and had a discussion of strategy 4 issues. They identified the need to

make links to other FAM processes (e.g., IHPC) and DFO initiatives (e.g., PICFI), as well as to include the Skeena watershed process in future WSP updates.

Next Steps: While it was agreed that strategy 4 will be developed differently in different areas or watersheds, it was felt that different aspects of the strategic planning process can be developed in the pilot projects and applied elsewhere. There is an ongoing issue with respect to how to group the 420 Conservation Units in BC for the purposes of strategy 4. A workshop in mid-March may provide some guidance on this last point.

Direction was provided on the update tables (slides 4-7). It was felt these were an effective tool to present progress and could be modified to show how challenges or risks are being mitigated. These tables could be made available publicly as a means of demonstrating progress.

Additionally, a discussion was held on the funding pressures for WSP. At this time, most of the items do not have identified dollar amounts attached, but are recognized as upcoming pressures. In this context, members were unable to commit to multi-year funding for the Web-Mapping Application. For this item, alternative funding mechanisms were discussed, such as continuing on a year-to-year basis or partial funding.

Responsibility: A. Bate

Deadline: n/a

3. Improved Salmon Management Planning (*Discussion*) – A. Thomson

Issue: Andy Thomson and Paul Ryall made a presentation. The goal was to discuss ways to improve the IFMP process and overall planning for salmon management.

Next Steps: There was support for the proposal and some suggestions to improve it, including adding a column for "internal process" and determining at what point the Minister is informed. In terms of next steps, a memo should be drafted for the Minister outlining anticipated challenges in 2009 and the proposed plan (deadline mid-Feb). A follow-up discussion on this should occur between the key players.

Responsibility: A. Thomson

Deadline: February 2009

**Operations Committee
Action Log**

January 8, 2009

Item	Action Required	Responsibility/ Deadline	Status
Interim Response Plan for Aquatic Invasive Species	It was noted that with no new resources towards AIS, the plan should focus on the communications and incident reporting process, rather than management measures to control or eradicate invasives. It was felt that this approach is consistent with the regional AIS strategy, as agreed in previous RMC discussions. As well, the following actions should be described as part of the AIS strategy: continue to build the information base, continue the risk assessments of identified species, and take measured strategic actions where feasible	A. Bate Immediate	Completed document revised and distributed April 24, 2009
Wild Salmon Priority Initiatives and Strategy 4	Provide update on WSP implementation progress through website. http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/species-especies/salmon-saumon/wsp-pss/index-eng.htm It was posted on the website link above under each of the Strategy pages in April 2009.	A. Bate April 15	Completed April 2009
Improved Salmon Management Planning	A memo should be drafted for the Minister outlining anticipated challenges in 2009 and the proposed plan (deadline mid-Feb).	A. Thomson Mid-Feb	Completed Feb. 23, #2009 2009-502-00044

Approved: _____

Date:

