



Government of Canada
Fisheries and Oceans

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To:
Pour Paul Sprout, RDG

Date: **MAR 15 2010**

Object: **SUMMARY OF THE PFRCC REPORT:
*DEVELOPING A WILD SALMON POLICY REVIEW FRAMEWORK***

Objet:

From / De: Jennifer Nener, AVR/D, Policy Branch

Your Signature
Votre signature

Information

For Comments
Observations

Material for the Minister
Documents pour la Ministre

Remarks:
Remarques:

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR GENERAL

**SUMMARY OF THE PFRCC REPORT:
DEVELOPING A WILD SALMON POLICY REVIEW FRAMEWORK**

(Information Only)

SUMMARY

- Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) announced the Wild Salmon Policy (WSP) in April 2005. The Policy commits the DFO to complete an independent review of the success of the WSP in achieving its broad goals and objectives within 5 years of its adoption. As such, First Nations and stakeholders expect an evaluation of WSP in 2010.
- The Pacific Fisheries Resource Conservation Council (PFRCC) released a report entitled *Developing a Wild Salmon Policy Review Framework: Stakeholder Perspectives on Review Components* at the request of DFO, Pacific Region in January 2010. The Review Framework report does not provide recommendations on the scope, focus, or performance measures for a review. Rather, the report provides ten suggestions for how the DFO could approach developing an independent review process, based on stakeholder feedback.
- The WSP Team (Pacific Region), in consultation with the DFO Audit and Evaluation directorate (NHQ) will develop a plan for an independent review of the WSP based, in part, on the advice provided by the PFRCC. DFO Pacific Region could then request the PFRCC lead and provide a means for undertaking the review based on the scope and evaluation criteria provided by DFO.

Background

- DFO released the Wild Salmon Policy (WSP) in April 2005. The objectives of the WSP are to safeguard the genetic diversity of wild Pacific salmon; maintain habitat and ecosystem integrity; and manage fisheries for sustainable benefits.

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- Given limited resources and capacity, DFO has not yet implemented the WSP to the full extent envisioned in the documents (e.g. completion of all action steps under Strategies 1-6 of the Policy). The DFO has taken an incremental approach to implementing the WSP; as such further work is required to develop monitoring frameworks to assess conservation units, habitat, and ecosystems. In addition, the first integrated planning pilot in Barkley Sound is not expected to be complete until the end of fiscal year 2010-11.
- The WSP, Strategy 6: Performance Review, commits the DFO to complete an independent review of the “success of the WSP in achieving its broad goals and objectives within 5 years of its adoption.” As such, First Nations and stakeholders expect an evaluation of WSP in 2010.
- The Pacific Fisheries Resource Conservation Council (PFRCC) is an advisory council to the Minister on issues pertaining to the conservation and long-term sustainability of Pacific salmon.
- On January 27, 2010, the PFRCC wrote to the RDG to deliver their report, *Developing a Wild Salmon Policy Review Framework: Stakeholder Perspectives on Review Components* and to provide a Council Advisory on WSP implementation. The PFRCC commissioned the report at DFO’s request. The report outlines and analyzes the results of interviews with nineteen representatives of stakeholders and First Nations on how DFO should proceed with an independent evaluation of the WSP.
- As per its custom, the PFRCC provided a “Council Advisory” based on the findings in the report, which includes PFRCC recommendations supporting the completion of an independent evaluation of the WSP, and identifying the need for additional resources for WSP implementation, assessment work, and identification of salmon habitat.

Analysis / DFO Comment

- The Council Advisory is consistent with past PFRCC recommendations and supports their enclosed report. As such, adverse stakeholder or media reaction is not anticipated.
- The report presents a ten-step review framework that emphasizes stakeholder input, including a separate process for consulting with First Nations. The review framework suggests that DFO should establish a review management structure that would determine the themes, focus, scope, performance measures, and sources of information for the review.
- The evaluation process outlined by the report is very complex and involves an in-depth separate stakeholder and First Nations engagement strategies. Although increased public knowledge about WSP is desirable, it is unlikely that the public would be in a position to provide DFO with concrete advice for improving WSP implementation.

- The evaluation framework proposed by the PFRCC may be more detailed than the type of review initially anticipated under Strategy 6. It would also require significant time and resources on the part of DFO that may hinder progress on implementation of other strategies under the Policy.
- The report does not provide specific recommendations on the scope, focus, or performance measures for the review.

Recommendations / Next Steps

- It is recommended that you sign the attached response letter to PFRCC indicating that DFO Pacific Region will review and consider their recommendations.
- It is recommended that the WSP Implementation Team work with Audit and Evaluation Branch to develop an evaluation framework for a review of the WSP. The evaluation framework would outline the scope, focus of the review, and identify performance measures and ways of collecting information.

Attachment (1) – Response letter to Mark Angelo

Lisa Wilson / Jennifer Nener



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Your file Votre référence

Our file Notre référence

MAR 15 2010

Mr. Mark Angelo
Chair
Pacific Fisheries Resource Conservation Council
290 - 858 Beatty Street
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Dear Mr. Angelo:

Thank you for your correspondence of January 27, 2010, on behalf of the Pacific Fisheries Resource Conservation Council (PFRCC).

I have reviewed the enclosed report, *Developing a Wild Salmon Policy Review Framework, Stakeholder Perspectives on Review Components*. The report provides an interesting ten step evaluation framework for completing a 5-year review of the Wild Salmon Policy (WSP). I was pleased to read that stakeholders that were interviewed are generally supportive of the Wild Salmon policy and are interested in more information about the policy itself and its current implementation status.

I also appreciate the Council providing an advisory on the implementation of the WSP. The Department will reflect on the Council's recommendations regarding the independent evaluation of the WSP, and the need for additional resources for WSP implementation, assessment work, and identification of salmon habitat. I would note that these recommendations will need to be considered in the context of current resource levels available to the Department and Pacific Region to support implementation of the WSP and related programs. The Department is continuing to work to determine how to best move forward with an independent review of the WSP as outlined in the Policy.

Thank you for your continued support and advice towards Pacific fisheries issues.

Sincerely,

Paul Sprout
Regional Director General
Pacific Region

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