

**From:** Clemens, Marc <ClemensM@DFO-MPO.GC.CA>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 19, 2008 3:28 PM  
**To:** Balfour, David <balfourd@DFO-MPO.GC.CA>; Bouffard, Nadia <BouffardN@DFO-MPO.GC.CA>; Sinclair, Gina <SinclairGin@DFO-MPO.GC.CA>  
**Subject:** RE: By-catch policy - background - for FCC meeting

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I've added the follow line to the text:

**• The objective of the proposed policy will be to ensure that fisheries are managed in a precautionary manner to minimize impacts on by-catch species or stocks.**

Given our commitments to the PA, in this policy the overall objective or guidance will likely have to be further spelled out in risk language, such as, "manage fisheries to avoid serious or irreversible harm to by-catch species or stocks from fishing". But I don't know if we want or can be more precise at this time without further discussion in FAM and Science. It's clear however that the policy will have to reflect existing legislation, policy and commitments. For example, once a stock is in a depleted state it enters the realm of COSEWIC/ SARA. There are a number of reasons why a stock may become depleted, harvest pressure being only one. But at minimum, the policy should encourage measures to manage by-catch so as to avoid situations where a fishery has a high probability of depleting a (by-catch) stock to a level that would likely trigger a status review by COSEWIC and listing consideration under SARA.

Nadia--I'll add some lines about our intended work plan for our meeting on Wed with the FCC.

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**From:** Balfour, David  
**Sent:** October 18, 2008 8:54 AM  
**To:** Bouffard, Nadia; Clemens, Marc; Sinclair, Gina  
**Subject:** Re: By-catch policy - background - for FCC meeting

It would be helpfull to have a one line sound bite that describes what the objective is. I find that you have to try to decerne this by rereading the expanation a couple of times. Its a bit obscure for the non practitioner.

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Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Device

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**From:** Bouffard, Nadia  
**To:** Clemens, Marc; Sinclair, Gina  
**Cc:** Balfour, David  
**Sent:** Fri Oct 17 18:51:24 2008  
**Subject:** RE: By-catch policy - background - for FCC meeting

Marc, this is good for DM/Balfour at the Panel. For our meeting with FCC, I suggest we add the specific steps we think will be part of the process. There is a lot of internal thinking - particularly on scope and system designs to cover incidental catches that will need to be covered at the front end, before we even begin to design the policy and discuss with FCC and others. The Work Plan outlines all this. I think we should provide a bit of this step by step approach to FCC members on Wednesday, so that they know we'll be doing this ground work first, before we engage on an actual policy. Note a lot of the front work is meant to avoid the situation we ended being in after we did the benthic habitat policy, when we realized that science does not have the tools yet in place to do mapping and risk assessments. Lessons learned...

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**From:** Clemens, Marc  
**Sent:** October 17, 2008 3:33 PM  
**To:** Sinclair, Gina  
**Cc:** Balfour, David; Bouffard, Nadia

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**Subject:** RE: By-catch policy - background - for FCC meeting

Oops, missed one of your additions.

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**From:** Clemens, Marc  
**Sent:** October 17, 2008 1:15 PM  
**To:** Sinclair, Gina  
**Cc:** Balfour, David; Bouffard, Nadia  
**Subject:** RE: By-catch policy - background - for FCC meeting

Thanks Gina. I've incorporated your additions.

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**From:** Sinclair, Gina  
**Sent:** October 17, 2008 12:23 PM  
**To:** Clemens, Marc; Balfour, David; Bouffard, Nadia  
**Subject:** RE: By-catch policy - background - for FCC meeting

Should revise first line to ensure RMSDF is being characterized as encompassing more than the new conservation policies.

The short overarching piece (encapsulation of the DMC piece from August 27) will have standard text that we can use and re-use. With any luck, I will have it done by Monday. Some changes are proposed below.

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**From:** Clemens, Marc  
**Sent:** October 17, 2008 11:29 AM  
**To:** Balfour, David  
**Cc:** Sinclair, Gina; Bouffard, Nadia  
**Subject:** By-catch policy - background - for FCC meeting

As requested...

## Background and Context

- The Resource Management Sustainable Development Framework pulls together existing and new and new conservation and economic policies and tools into one cohesive package to ensure a rules-based, transparent, rigorous and systematic approach to decision-making to promote sustainable fisheries in Canada.
- Conservation policies in the Framework are establishing the building blocks for an ecosystem approach to fisheries management.
- An ecosystem approach to fisheries management requires that management takes into account the impact of fisheries on the productivity of the target stock, aquatic biodiversity, benthic habitats and the aquatic ecosystem generally, and as well, that impacts of ecosystem changes on fisheries also be taken into account.
- Managing the impacts of a fishery on by-catch is essential for a sustainable fishery and is also an important element of an ecosystem approach to fisheries management. The by-catch policy will provide key guidance on managing fishery impacts on aquatic biodiversity, in particular, but also ecosystem impacts generally.
- Work on developing a national policy on by-catch species is expected to get underway in early 2009

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I Drives\ADM Level\Fisheries & Aquaculture\David B  
alfour\Email01\Cohen - David Balfour\

## Scope and Objective of the proposed By-Catch Policy

- The policy will be designed to guide management actions on all exploited stocks or species that are not part of a harvest management framework; that is, those stocks or species which are not the intended targets of a fishery and which are not subject to a formal management framework or policy such as the Precautionary Approach Framework, Pacific Wild Salmon Policy, specific harvest strategy, etc.
- The objective of the proposed policy will be to ensure that fisheries are managed in a precautionary manner to minimize impacts on by-catch species or stocks.
- While by-catch measures are already in place in many marine fisheries in Canada, the policy will establish a nationally consistent approach that follows international norms on managing by-catch.
- The policy will provide guidance on minimum standards for managing by-catch and on monitoring of and reporting on by-catch species, as well as other considerations.