



Director, Pacific Fisheries Reform
Pacific Region
200 - 401 Burrard Street
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August 13, 2007

Mr. Dave Barrett
Interim Executive Director
Commercial Salmon Advisory Board
789 East 9th Street
North Vancouver, B.C.
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Dear Mr. Barrett:

As per our recent discussions concerning the continuation of the SCORE process, I wanted to confirm DFO's expectations with respect to the objectives and deliverables for the work that the CSAB will be undertaking this fall and winter. The SCORE work to date has focused on a number of process issues in addition to canvassing the views of CSAB members on the general direction for future management of the commercial salmon fishery.

Given Minister Hearn's announcement on July 16th of the Pacific Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative and the need for a share based approach to managing Pacific salmon, the CSAB's work takes on an added importance. The CSAB's advice on the future commercial salmon fishery is more crucial than ever, especially given some of the concerns outlined by the members on our July 26th conference call with respect to allocation transfer mechanisms. In the interest of making the most effective and efficient use of the CSAB's time and our collective financial resources, I want to clarify that DFO is seeking advice on a management framework for commercial salmon fleets that contains the following elements;

- a. Has the flexibility to respond effectively to conservation objectives in an economically viable and sustainable manner, including the ability to fund associated fishery monitoring programs in the long run,
- b. Includes defined catch shares for all commercial salmon fishing fleets to provide for
 - i. greater certainty and stability, and
 - ii. additional flexibility in structuring fisheries, including the potential for inter-fleet transfers under mutually beneficial circumstances,
- c. Can be delivered in an integrated manner with share based commercial fisheries conducted by First Nations, i.e. all parties have an equal opportunity to harvest their shares under similar rules and common conservation objectives, and

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- d. Contains a mechanism to permit transfers of catch shares, through voluntary license retirement in a fair and transparent manner.

As you can appreciate, given the Minister's July 16th announcement and my description of the next steps in consultation, multi-interest discussions on a range of topics, including a share based management approach for the commercial salmon fishery, will begin in the early fall. It will be important for the CSAB to engage in these discussions in an informed manner to contribute to an integrated commercial salmon fishery that is beneficial for all. I believe that the SCORE work that we have discussed will be of significant assistance in this regard.

Notwithstanding the complexity of the issues and the different views on the appropriate way forward, I am requesting that the CSAB provide its advice on the matters described above by February 28th, 2008. This would leave time for additional internal and external discussions that will be required before any decisions are taken that could affect the 2008 salmon fishery. I understand that the CSAB is working through a consensus based decision making model and look forward to a possible unanimously supported outcome by the end of February. However, past experience suggests that this might not be possible and in that case we would look for the CSAB's views to be summarized in a report, much like you did for area re-selection, but with the addition of clear rationale for the views expressed. Narrowing the differences by identifying as many areas of agreement as possible will be mutually beneficial in considering the CSAB's advice and I would urge you to structure your deliberations along those lines.

Thank you for your continuing work on this matter, that is of utmost importance to the sustainability of the commercial salmon fishery. I look forward to our collaboration through this fall and winter.

Yours sincerely,



Ron Kadowaki
Director, Pacific Fisheries Reform
Pacific Region

cc: P. Sprout
D. Radford
K. McGivney