

# First Nations Fisheries Council

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FIRST NATIONS  
FISHERIES COUNCIL

**January 27, 2010**

Claire Dansereau  
Deputy Minister  
Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
200 Kent Street  
13th Floor, Station 13E228  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0E6

Dear Ms. Dansereau;

**Re: Proposed changes to process for allocations in Pacific Fisheries**

On November 26 a small meeting was held in Vancouver with the stated purpose of obtaining feedback on DFO's approach of 'allocation stability to increase transparency and predictability in allocation decision making.' A small number of First Nations participants were invited to this meeting.

Information provided at this meeting raised a number of concerns for B.C. First Nations with respect to both the entrenchment of current allocation policies and practices and with respect to potential changes to allocation policy and practice in the future.

As you are aware, First Nations in B.C. assert that current allocation policy infringes on aboriginal Title and rights. B.C. First Nations also have repeatedly articulated to Canada that a bilateral engagement process between the proper rights-holders and Canada is required in order to effectively deal with Title and rights, and to meet Canada's obligations relating to effective consultation and accommodation.

With these points in mind, the First Nations Fisheries Council does not feel that the meeting of November 26 was broad or fulsome enough to provide adequate opportunity for B.C. First Nations to provide feedback to DFO on proposed changes to the allocation policy. The Council suggests to DFO that more comprehensive discussions take place, perhaps through a workshop or discussions, which would engage First Nations more broadly in these discussions and allow for proper analysis and feedback from B.C. First Nations into these proposed changes.



We look forward to your reply and hope to work with you and your staff on this important initiative in the future.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ken Malloway', written over the printed name and title.

Grand Chief Ken Malloway  
Interior Co-Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Henderson', written over the printed name and title.

John Henderson  
Coastal Co-Chair

**Cc: Susan Farlinger, Regional Director General – DFO Pacific Region**  
**Rebecca Reid, Director Fisheries and Aquaculture Management, Pacific Region**