

REQUEST FOR SCIENCE INFORMATION AND/OR ADVICE

Pacific Region

PART 1: DESCRIPTION OF THE REQUEST (to be filled by the Branch requesting Information/Advice)

Date (Initial submission to Science):

| Directorate, Branch or group initiating the request and category of request | |
|---|---|
| Directorate/Branch <input type="checkbox"/> Fisheries and Aquaculture Management <input type="checkbox"/> Oceans and Habitat Management <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Science <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): Enhancement group (ESAU) within Oceans, Habitat & Enhancement Branch | Category of Request <input type="checkbox"/> Stock Assessment <input type="checkbox"/> Species at Risk <input type="checkbox"/> Habitat <input type="checkbox"/> Aquaculture <input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Action Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): Study design for determination of carrying capacity. |

| Initiating Branch Contact: | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Name: Don MacKinlay | Telephone Number: 604-666-3520 |
| Email: mackinlayd@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca | Fax Number: 604-666-0417 |

| Issue Requiring Science Advice (i.e., “the question”): |
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| <i>(Issue posed as a question for Science response)</i> |
| What is the appropriate study design to determine the carrying capacity for salmonids (by individual species, with chum, coho and chinook of major concern) in the Georgia Strait? |

| Rationale for Advice Request: |
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| <i>(What is the issue, what will it address, importance, scope and breadth of interest, etc.)</i> |
| Survival rates for coho and chinook show a downward trend over time, particularly for those stocks that normally rear entirely in Georgia Strait. There is evidence that these stocks now leave the strait to rear off the west coast and possibly to the north of Vancouver Island, suggesting that there has been a reduction of food available in the strait. There are suggestions that hatchery production is exceeding the present carrying capacity of Georgia Strait. Without understanding what the carrying capacity is, it will not be possible to determine whether this is the case or not. |

| Intended Uses and Potential Impacts of Advice within DFO: |
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| <i>(Who will be the end user of the advice, e.g., DFO, another government agency or Industry?)</i> |
| <i>What impact could the advice have on other sectors?)</i> |
| The advice on study design would be used by a sector within DFO (Science Branch or Oceans, Habitat and Enhancement Branch, Oceans sector) to carry out a study on this issue. |

| Potential Impacts of the Advice on the Public: |
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(Who will be impacted by the advice and to what extent?)

Advice on study design would not affect the public.

Date Advice Required:

Latest possible date to receive Science advice: December 31, 2008

Rationale: There is a need to start studying this issue as soon as possible.

Initiating Branch's Approval:

Approved by Initiating Regional Director:

Date:

1) Send form via email attachment from initiating Regional Director to Centre for Science Advice Coordinator. Each region may have its own communication rules but the regional CSAs should be central in this planning process.

PART 2: RESPONSE FROM SCIENCE (to be filled by the Centre for Science Advice)

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| <p>Criteria characterising the request:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Science advice is requested (rather than just information)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A sound basis of peer-reviewed information and advisory precedent already exists.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Inclusiveness is an issue</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Advice on this or a similar issue has been provided in the past.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Urgent request.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> DFO is not the final advisory body.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> CEAA process</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Other:</p> | <p>Constraints regarding the planning of a standard peer review/Workshop:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> External expertise required</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This is a scientifically controversial issue, i.e., consensus does <i>not</i> currently exist within DFO science.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Extensive preparatory work is required.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Determination of information availability is required (prior to provision of advice).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Resources supporting this process are not available.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Expected time needed for the preparatory work:</p> | <p>Other criteria that could affect the choice of the process, the timelines, or the scale of the meeting:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The response provided could be considered as a precedent that will affect other regions.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The response corresponds to a new framework or will affect the framework currently in place.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Expertise from other DFO regions is necessary.</p> |
| <p>Recommendation regarding the advisory process and the timelines:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ad Hoc Process <input type="checkbox"/> Workshop <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Review Meeting</p> | | |
| <p>Rationale:</p> <p>Advisory product expected:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Science Advisory Report <input type="checkbox"/> Research Document</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Proceeding <input type="checkbox"/> Science Response Report</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other:</p> | | |
| <p>Date Advice to be Provided:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Date specified can be met.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Date specified can NOT be met.</p> <p>Alternate date, as agreed to by initiating Branch contact and Science lead:</p> | | |

OR

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| <p><input type="checkbox"/> No Formal Response to be Provided by Science</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> DFO Science Region does not have the expertise required.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> DFO Science Region does not have resources available at this time.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The deadline can not be met.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Response to a similar question has been provided elsewhere: Reference:</p> <p>Additional explanation:</p> |
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Science Branch Lead:

Name:

Telephone Number:

Email:

* Please contact Science Branch lead for additional details on this request.

Science Branch Approval:

Approved by Regional Director, Science (or their delegate authority):

Date:

- 1) Please send form via email attachment to initiating Regional Director.
- 2) cc email to the Centre for Science Advice (CSA) Coordinator and the initiating Branch contact person.