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Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2005 10:49 AM
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Cc: MacAulay, Hugh <MacAulayH@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Subject: Definitions and Principles for the Wild Salmon Policy

Ladies and Gentlemen; At our meeting last Thursday, Brian provided some new text for the definition of conservation, and three revised Principles. There was no conclusion to our discussion on the revisions, but we agreed to give further consideration to the proposed language at our next meeting (April 1). The most fundamental decision we need to make in revising this part of the WSP text is the definition of conservation, because the choice we make there will direct the content of the Principles. We have two choices; we can eliminate the notion of "sustainable use" from the definition of conservation (as Brian has done), or we can define conservation as including sustainable use. I have described two options below that reflect these two choices.

OPTION ONE - CONSERVATION EXCLUDES SUSTAINABLE USE

Conservation is the protection, maintenance, and rehabilitation of genetic diversity, species, and ecosystems to ensure the continuance of evolutionary and natural production processes and sustain biodiversity. (this is Brian's proposed definition).

PRINCIPLES (LISTED IN PRIORITY)

1. Conservation of wild Pacific salmon and their habitat is the highest priority for resource management decision making.

2. Respect for Canada's obligations to First Nations, consistency with the tenets of sustainable use, and adherence to the

Precautionary Approach will guide resource management decision making.

3. Resource management decisions will consider biological, social and economic benefits and costs in an open, transparent, and inclusive process.

OPTION TWO - CONSERVATION INCLUDES SUSTAINABLE USE

Conservation is the protection and sustainable use of the salmon and their habitats for the long term health and productivity of

wild populations, and for present and future social and economic values. (this is the definition in the WSP glossary, slightly

modified by substituting the word "sustainable" for "wise". This definition was advocated by the PFRCC)

PRINCIPLES (LISTED IN PRIORITY)

1. Conservation of wild Pacific salmon and their habitat is the highest priority for resource management decision making.

2. Resource management decisions will be made in an open, transparent, and inclusive manner.

3. Resource management decisions will consider biological, social, and economic benefits.
4. Resource management processes and decisions will respect Canada's obligations to First Nations.

Option one is generally consistent with the proposal provided by Brian, though I have amended the language in Principles one and two which Brian tabled on Thursday.

Option two proposes a definition of conservation that includes sustainable use, and more generally adheres to the Principles from the draft WSP document. Principle one deviates from the draft WSP, Principles two and three are the same as in the draft WSP, and Principle four is new, reflecting our concern that the Policy more adequately respond to first Nation concerns. We will want to ensure that the language that deals with FN obligations is reviewed by DOJ, and I have copied Mr. MacAulay, with a request that he review the language pertaining to First Nations, and advise if it is acceptable (I have tried to avoid use of reference to FN "rights".)

I look forward to getting your comments on these options when we meet Friday at Nanaimo.

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