



RECORD OF MEETING

Date: January 17th, 2011

Location: Cypress Boardroom, 401 Burrard St., Vancouver

Purpose of Meeting: Update on Wild Salmon Policy (WSP) Implementation

Group/Advisory Committee: Regional WSP Implementation Team

Attendees: Amy Mar (Chair), Carol Cross, Shaun Davies, Melody Farrell, Wellsley Hamilton, Corey Jackson, Wilf Luedke, Deborah Phelan, Tom Robbins, Mark Saunders

Regrets: Richard Bailey, Ryan Galbraith, Brent Hargreaves, Raymond Lauzier, Carrie Holt, Kim Hyatt, James Irvine, Dave Peacock, and Neil Schubert

List of Materials Distributed:

- Agenda
- Draft WSP Evaluation Terms of Reference
- Draft WSP Implementation Report

Key Issues Discussed:

Strategy 6: Performance Review (Amy)

- Dec 17th Operations Committee provided direction on independent review. WSP Team tasked with developing draft evaluation framework to evaluate DFO's performance in WSP implementation, evaluate progress against the Strategies and action steps, assess DFO's engagement with partners and stakeholders, and assess the extent to which WSP has been integrated into day-to-day operations.
- Team discussion on importance of clarifying the purpose and scope of the independent review
- Should examine the integration of WSP within the Department and linkages between WSP strategies
- Important to look at examples (i.e. pilots in Barkley and Skeena) and DFO's role in them
- Awareness of WSP and importance of partnerships should also be recognized
- Strategy leads to follow up on performance measures to track progress against their respective Strategies/Action steps
- Discussion about process and whether an independent reviewer would undertake interviews with DFO staff, considering this was already done to develop the implementation report
- Transcripts from Cohen Commission hearings also identified as a summarized resource that could be consulted
- May want to consider working with independent agency to gather First Nations information related to the review
- Next steps are to return to Ops Cttee with evaluation framework in March, and hire independent contractor in new fiscal year to undertake the review
- Should aim to complete the review by the end of the calendar year
- Funds for the review will need to be identified

Finalizing the WSP Implementation Report (Amy)

- Any comments or changes to the report can be forwarded to Amy

Strategy 5: Annual Program Delivery

- **Communications (Tom)**
 - Tom to provide an update on the Communications Plan at next meeting
- **Consultations (Deborah, Wellsley)**
 - Discussion on internal staff update - agreement to undertake a high-level overview of WSP in late March/early April through teleconference/ webinar
 - Aim to conduct Area-staff meetings later in the year to have in-depth discussion with staff on WSP implementation; will try to piggy-back onto existing Area-staff meetings; engage the Area Chiefs to develop the agendas
 - Consider holding an external stakeholder forum in Fall 2011, after completion of WSP independent review

Strategy 1: Standardized Monitoring of Wild Salmon Status (Mark)

- Template for stock assessment framework underway; Stock Assessment Coordinating Committee meeting this week
- Focus has been on Chinook framework (Brent Hargreaves is the lead)
- Chuck Parken habitat-escapement model referenced

Strategy 2: Assessment of Habitat Status (Melody)

- Three habitat status reports due to be complete by the end of this fiscal – Somass, Bedwell and San Juan
- Nature Conservancy of Canada proposing to undertake GIS modeling of watershed-scale indicators in Fraser CUs; this will help inform priorities in the Fraser, however project based on historical data (year 2000); funding will not be known until the end of the fiscal year
- Contracted ESSA to develop monitoring framework for fisheries sensitive watersheds; copy received for review
- Contracted Golder to develop framework on habitat status monitoring; work was re-scoped and refined; Mark and Neil attended these sessions with Melody and Mark Johanness; approach involves selecting priority CUs for status reporting and monitoring; expected to be completed by the end of March
- It was noted that there are linkages between WSP Strategy 2 and the PSC Habitat Subcommittee

Strategy 3: Inclusion of Ecosystem Values and Monitoring

- No update as Jim/Kim were not available

Strategy 4: Integrated Strategic Planning

- **Barkley Sound (Wilf)**
 - Barkley Sound multi-stakeholder meeting planned in Port Alberni on January 27; Will review WSP objectives, coastal zone planning, past wild salmon summits; Breakout sessions to discuss technical issues; attendance will include fishery and other interests like tourism industry
 - Second Barkley multi-stakeholder meeting planned for March to develop local management plans
 - Barkley Sound Terms of Reference still draft, nearly finalized; will need to brief RDG on this
- **Cowichan (Wilf)**
 - Habitat status report completed
 - Focus on Chinook rebuilding
 - Ecosystem status report developed by regional district board

- Action plan drafted
- **Skeena (Corey)**
 - Challenges in the membership and role of the group; some players are leaving the table
 - Technical committee to identify projects (supported by PSF)
 - Some work underway by the habitat sub-committee; links to WSP action-steps unclear (led by Joy Hillier)
 - Corey to have discussion with Mel K. and Sue F. on advancing Strategy 4 in the Skeena
- Strategy 4 approach: Corey to develop an overall approach to Strategy 4 implementation for discussion at SDC in March 2011; will bring forward to the Team for discussion
- It was noted that WSP governance is a topic for discussion at the RMC retreat in early Feb.

Next Meeting

- Dwight McCullough to provide demonstration of the web mapping application
- Melody to discuss WSP and the Habitat Management Program
- Revisit WSP Evaluation Terms of Reference

Action Items:

- **Strategy Leads** to provide draft performance measures for their respective Strategy/ Action Steps at next meeting for the WSP Evaluation Terms of Reference
- **A. Mar** to circulate revised WSP Evaluation Terms of Reference for review
- **C. Jackson** to provide a presentation on approach to Strategy 4 for WSP Team discussion
- **W. Hamilton** and **D. Phelan** to work out details for Staff Update in March/April
- **M. Saunders** to forward information about webinars to **W. Hamilton**
- **T. Robbins** to update the WSP Communications Plan
- **All** – review WSP Implementation Report and send any comments or changes to Amy
- **C. Cross** - share information re: RMC retreat WSP governance case study
- **W. Hamilton** to follow up with Frank Quinn regarding new WSP Yukon representative and next steps on Yukon CU external consultations (Blair Holtby).
- **M. Saunders, C. Jackson, and M. Farrell** to discuss the development of a habitat monitoring framework with Science and Dave Carter from Habitat Compliance and Monitoring (HCM), with the caveat that OHEB funding challenges exist.
- **A. Silverstein, M. Farrell and N. Schubert** to discuss synergies between monitoring frameworks. Follow-up meeting with **M. Saunders, K. Hyatt, C. Jackson** to take place.
- **K. Hyatt** to circulate manuscript on Fraser production variation.
- **J. Irvine** to provide a list of the ecosystem status and trends reports.
- **W. Hamilton** to circulate final consultation plan.

Contact:

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cc:

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