

**Pacific Fisheries and Aquaculture Committee – British Columbia Meeting
October 23, 2009 – Victoria, B.C.**

Record of Decision

Participants

Allison Webb, DFO (Co-Chair)
 Al Martin, BC (Co-Chair)
 Andy Thomson, DFO
 Charlie Twaddle, BC
 Larry Neilson, BC
 Jessica Pfeffer, BC
 Elise Lavigne, DFO
 Mel Kotyk, DFO
 Al Castledine, BC
 Joanne Lawrence, DFO

Barron Carswell, BC
 Andy Witt, BC
 Andrew Wilson, BC
 Gary Caine, BC
 Lorraine Saunders, BC
 Bob Williams, BC
 Andrew Thistle, DFO
 Paul Ryall, DFO
 Ian Graeme, BC

1. Welcome / Introduction	Allison Webb and Al Martin welcomed everyone to the meeting, and all participants introduced themselves.
2. Review of December 3, 2008 PFAC Record of Decisions	<p><u>Item 1</u> – DFO to follow up with YT to debrief on meeting and to forward copy of RoD.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Done <p><u>Item 4</u> – DFO to discuss bilateral model with YT and to seek views on model; follow up at next meeting on governance discussion and potential new model.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DFO will be talking to the YT at the PFAC-YT meeting in November. <p><u>Item 5</u> – Terms of Reference for two Habitat committees to be finalized and submitted for approval by DFO and BC senior management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ToR for a Habitat Subcommittee to PFAC have been drafted and are currently going through approval process. The second committee cannot be worked on until the Habitat subcommittee is finalized. <p><u>Item 6</u> – DFO to discuss federal role in BC Water Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water management to be discussed during that agenda item in the afternoon. <p><u>Item 8</u> – BC to discuss Fed-Prov collaboration with other provincial colleagues responsible for invasives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work on this is ongoing through the CCFAM and National Aquatic Invasive Species Committee. There has been good cooperation on lake rehabilitation in areas such as Shuswap.
3. Update on	There was a CCFAM Ministers' meeting in PEI last week.

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Fed-Prov-Terr Ministerial Committee Meetings	<p>Aquaculture, eco-certification, traceability, ITQs, and maximizing the value of aquatic resources, as well as property rights were discussed.</p> <p>There is to be a CCFAM review to look at improving work on a national and regional level, and relevancy across the country.</p> <p>There was also an ACFAM meeting, where topics included seals, sustainability trends affecting the fisheries/aquaculture sector, sea lice, lobster, Canadian Shellfish Sanitation Program and renewals of the <i>Fisheries Act</i>.</p>
4. Waste Water and CSSP	<p>A new CCFAM sub-committee was formed: it needs to be very well organized, and every province needs to make sure that the right regulatory agencies are involved.</p> <p>A recent issue from the east coast was large-scale closures for precautionary reasons relating to storms, with very little notice. There are guidelines for small closures, but not large-scale closures.</p>
5. DFO – BC Bilateral Committee	<p>PFAC – BC/YT was not very effective as agenda items/areas of interest were often different. Now meeting as PFAC-BC and PFAC-YT.</p> <p><u>Actions/Decisions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General consensus that there is no need to formalize the new groups through new Terms of Reference or structure – existing ToR and structure are fine.
6. Wild Salmon Policy	<p>Paul Ryall (DFO) did a presentation on WSP, which will be shared with PFAC-BC participants.</p> <p>It was noted that there are similarities with BC's Steelhead Conservation Policy and a number of areas for cooperation with BC, including Living Rivers, MSC certification, Coastal Zone and LUP.</p> <p>Question was raised regarding whether or not BC Economists will be part of peer review of discussion document.</p> <p><u>Actions/Decisions:</u></p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is to be follow up by DFO with BC Ministry of Environment staff, Jennifer Maxwell and Michelle McIntyre, regarding participation in peer review.
7. Aquaculture	Discussion around recent decision by Justice Hinkson. DFO-BC will begin discussions on October 27, 2009.
8. Water Management	<p>Ian Graeme (BC) provided an update on the Province's <i>Living Water Smart</i> plan, Section 9 of the <i>Fish Protection Act</i>, and the upcoming review of the <i>Water Act</i>.</p> <p>Issues of DFO consultation/engagement, storage of own water by farmers, past engagement, water use rights, monitoring, and licensing were discussed.</p> <p><u>Actions/Decisions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A copy of the presentation is to be circulated to meeting participants. Allison Webb is to be the contact person from DFO for Water Management.
Roundtable	<p><u>August Council of Federation (COF) Meeting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the meeting, Premiers agreed to: 1) implement a Canada-wide water efficiency labelling program; and 2) to create a Council of Federation Water Stewardship Council, with a focus on water conservation and efficiency. BC will take a leadership role in the development of the Water Stewardship Council. BC recognizes a lot of work is yet to be done to determine what the new COF Water Council model will look like and to ensure that it complements stewardship councils already in place. A concept paper is currently under development, and it will likely be shared with DFO. Chair of the COF, Premier Brad Wall, wrote a letter to the Chair of the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment, Minister John Gerretsen, requesting that he raise these as priority items at the upcoming CCME Ministers meeting in Kingston on October 29th (attached).

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COF_letter from
Premier Gerret...

Aquatic Invasive Species

- The Premier signed an agreement with Washington State committing BC to the Columbia River Basin Project for early detection of and rapid response to invasive zebra and quagga mussels.

Habitat Working Group

- Close to getting Terms of Reference signed for the Habitat Working Group, and there is hope they will be in place soon so that the Habitat Subcommittee to PFAC can be established.
- There are weekly conference calls being held between DFO and BC.

Oceans

- Work is going well on a logic model work plan for Oceans.
- Looking at how the Federal departments and Provincial ministries can coordinate.
- BC noted it is looking at developing a new Ocean and Coastal Strategy.

Fraser River Sockeye

- There were low returns this year.
- Currently working on approaches to consider causes of variability.

Pacific Salmon Treaty

- Executive session in Alaska this week.
- Fraser River Chapter next to be renegotiated (expires December 31, 2010).
- Update provided on Chapter 3 (Chinook) reductions to allowable harvest (30% in WCVI and 15% in Southeast Alaska fisheries) and mitigation strategy.

Intergovernmental Affairs

- Meeting in November to discuss Species at Risk strategy and to look at implementation plan.

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	<p><u>DFO Updates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• New Assistant Deputy Minister of Policy: Mitch Bloom• New Director General of International Affairs: Michael Pearson <p><u>Species at Risk Act</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are a lot of new species coming forward (17).• There is a new approach to consultations, which will be occurring on November 12th. <p><u>Eco-Certification</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work is being done on implementing regional strategies.• Conversations have occurred with MSC, the Universities of BC and Washington, and there is interest in putting together a Global Centre of Excellence on Eco-Certification. <p><u>PCFAM</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There have been no PCFAM meetings since March 2006.• Ministers are meeting bilaterally to discuss specific issues, but not officially under PCFAM. <p><u>Action/Decisions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Larry Neilson (BC) is to follow up with DFO as appropriate to discuss/distribute information about work done on the Watershed Stewardship Council.
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