

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Principles

All recommendations put forth by this committee take into account the 'Precautionary Principle' as we are dealing with a common public resource. The Precautionary Principle recognizes that the absence of full scientific certainty should not be used to delay actions or decisions when faced with threats of serious or irreversible harm.

Further, these recommendations are framed with the principles and vision of the New Relationship. First Nations, in whose traditional territory work is being conducted must be fully involved in decision making and provided with the capacity to do so.

1. Finfish Recommendations

- 1.1 A rapid, phased transition to ocean-based closed containment begin immediately. Within three years ocean-based closed containment must be developed. Once developed, industry must transition to this technology within the subsequent two years.
- 1.2 To meet the initial three year deadline, the provincial government, in partnership with the federal government and the salmon aquaculture industry, must urgently finance and conduct a full commercial scale ocean-based closed containment project.
- 1.3 The provincial government should develop and provide incentives to the aquaculture industry to facilitate the transition to ocean-based closed containment technology.

2. North and Central Coast

- 2.1 There be no new finfish sites approved north of Cape Caution.
- 2.2 The existing Klemtu sites be grandfathered subject to negotiations between First Nations of the area and Marine Harvest.
- 2.3 In light of the recommended time referenced transition to ocean-based closed containment, any expansion in Klemtu, as elsewhere, must utilize ocean-based closed containment technology.

3. Siting and Monitoring

Expansion and Monitoring

- 3.1 Once all of the existing sites have transitioned to ocean-based closed containment, the opportunity to expand to new sites with this technology can be considered with the following conditions:
 - 3.1.1 Restoration of local governments and residents' right to approve the siting of new finfish sites.
 - 3.1.2 Changes to the 'right to farm' legislation should be made accordingly – sections of the *Agriculture, Food and Fisheries Statutes Amendment Act, 2003 S.B.C. 2003, c.49* must be repealed.