



**MARINE FINFISH
AQUACULTURE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AMAC)
Summary Notes (DRAFT)
Marriott Vancouver Airport, Richmond, BC - March 27, 2013**

Meeting Objective:

To convene a facilitated dialogue that brings together a range of interests related to aquaculture to provide coordinated advice to DFO in British Columbia, and help inform the department's preparation of Integrated Management of Aquaculture Plans (IMAPs).

Representatives at the Table:

Aquaculture Industry:

Clare Backman, Sustainability Programs Director, Marine Harvest Canada
Terry Brooks, Farm Operations, Sable Fish Canada Ltd.
Barb Cannon, Biology Manager, Creative Salmon
Marilyn Hutchinson, Director of Sustainability and Growth, Grieg Seafood

Aquaculture Associations:

Richard Harry, Executive Director, Aboriginal Aquaculture Association
Mary Ellen Walling, Executive Director, BC Salmon Farmers Association

Environmental/Conservation Organizations (asked to be noted as an "Observer"):

Terry Tebb, Vice President Operations, Pacific Salmon Foundation

First Nations (all representatives asked to be noted as "Observers," pending final decisions relating to participation by First Nations):

Bob Chamberlin, Vice-President, Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs
Larry Greba, Advisor, Central Coast Indigenous Resource Alliance (half day/am)
Richard Holmes, Biologist, Upper Fraser Fisheries Conservation Alliance
Tony Roberts Jr., Councillor, Wei Wai Kum First Nation (half day/am)

Local Government:

Joe Stanhope, President, Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

Fisheries and Oceans Canada:

March Klaver, Regional Manager, Aquaculture Resource Management
Brenda M^cCorquodale, Senior Aquaculture Management Coordinator
Diana Trager, Director, Aquaculture Management



Regrets:

Laurie Jensen, Communications and Corporate Sustainability Manager, Mainstream Canada

Observers in Gallery:

Alex Gagne, First Nations Fisheries Council

Racheal Weymer, First Nations Fisheries Council

Blair Stewart, Coastal Manager, Nisga'a Lisims Government

Maureen Grant, Policy Analyst, Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs

David Latremouille, Fisheries Habitat Biologist, Skeena Fisheries Commission

Deborah Phelan, Manager, Consultation Secretariat, DFO

Bernie Taekema, Senior Aquaculture Management Coordinator, DFO

Jon Chamberlain, Senior Fisheries and Aquaculture Management Officer, DFO

Monica Fitzgerald, Governance Officer, Aquaculture Management, DFO

Facilitator:

Craig Darling, Accord Canada Collaboration Resources

Materials Distributed (list):

- Draft Aquaculture Management Advisory Committee (AMAC) Terms of Reference
- Draft Aquaculture Management Advisory Committee (AMAC) Meeting Facilitation Statement of Work
- Draft Marine Finfish Integrated Management of Aquaculture Plan (IMAP)
- Correspondence between DFO and the Conservation Organizations' Working Group.

Discussion Summary and Action Items:

Introductions and Overview of Agenda

- Diana Trager made an introductory statement with regard to this initial meeting of the Marine Finfish Aquaculture Management Advisory Committee (AMAC) meeting.
- Craig Darling invited the meeting participants to introduce themselves.
- Craig Darling provided the meeting participants with an overview of the role of the meeting participant and the role of the meeting observer.
- Craig Darling provided the participants with an overview of the meeting agenda and the meeting objectives.
 - Some participating First Nations' representatives expressed concern with respect to their preference that a bilateral process for discussions between First Nations and DFO be set up prior to the development of the AMAC.



- Some participating First Nations' representatives expressed concern that additional support should be provided for First Nations to hold internal meetings on aquaculture issues (Tier 1) and for bilateral meetings (Tier 2) to take place in advance of substantive discussion at the AMAC.
- Some participating First Nations' representatives asked for clarification on the level of funding that DFO would be able to provide to support Tier 1 and Tier 2 processes in 2013/14.
- Diana Trager noted that DFO has been working to support First Nations Tier 1 and 2 aquaculture meetings around BC since 2009, with the provision of funding that has resulted in more than 16 Tier 1 and 2 aquaculture meetings around the province. She noted that the FNFC has been provided funding this year to support the development of the Tier 1 & 2 approach, and noted that a number of Tier 1 meetings have taken place where this approach has been discussed. DFO is awaiting advice from First Nations relating to their vision for a Tier 1 & 2 process.
- DFO advised that there will be some funding available to support Tier 1 and Tier 2 meetings in the 2013/14 fiscal year. DFO has been working with the FNFC on planning for the use and distribution of these funds. First Nations are also able to access funds available to them through Aboriginal Aquatic Resource and Oceans Management (AAROM) program and the Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy (AFS) program for aquaculture-related work in their local communities. **ACTION 1: DFO will continue to work through the First Nations' Fisheries Council to create greater clarity around Tier 1 and Tier 2 First Nations aquaculture meetings.** These discussions will take place outside of the AMAC process.
- It was requested by Chief Chamberlin that the meeting record reflect that this AMAC meeting does not, from his perspective, constitute consultations. DFO explained it is intended to be an information sharing session related to broad policy and operational issues.

Review of Draft AMAC Terms of Reference and Discussion

- Brenda M^cCorquodale of DFO presented PowerPoint slides on the AMAC Terms of Reference (TOR).
 - Participants asked how the *Cohen Commission of Inquiry into the Decline of Sockeye Salmon in the Fraser River* report recommendations would affect the AMAC process.
 - Participants asked how much influence AMAC level discussions/ recommendations would have on the Integrated Management of Aquaculture Plan (IMAP) and the management of aquaculture in general.
 - DFO advised that the provision of advice/recommendations is outlined on page 5 of the draft AMAC Terms of Reference:
(the AMAC will) Develop feedback (advice and/or recommendations) relating to the management framework for aquaculture in British Columbia, including the development of the marine finfish Integrated Management of Aquaculture Plan (IMAP), taking into account departmental priorities, the views of the interests represented on the committee, and supporting data and documentation where possible;



- Some First Nations' representatives noted they had a concern with the Environmental and Social Sustainability principle in the ToR, which they felt may be interpreted as being biased toward support for the aquaculture industry.
- Richard Holmes noted that Interior First Nations have expressed concern about the number of seats allocated for First Nations from the BC Interior to participate in the AMAC. It was noted that First Nations have requested an increased number of Interior seats, and have written to DFO with respect to this request.
- Some First Nations' representatives and conservation organizations expressed concern that representatives from the Province of BC did not participate in the meeting and noted that there currently is not a forum to speak to the Government of Canada and the Province of BC together on matters related to aquaculture in BC.
- Meeting participants asked how the number of representatives for each group on the committee were determined.
- Industry noted they take direction from DFO on the makeup of the committee, based on processes with capture fisheries. While they have different species, support industries as well as the farming companies, they share a desire to have balance and workable numbers. Industry noted that if their numbers on the committee are reduced it would mean that the group would be less able to move forward or to have comprehensive discussions on certain issues, due to a need to be checking back with others.
- Terry Tebb noted that conservation organizations have expressed the opinion that the AMAC should have seats for 'independent science' representatives.
- There was discussion surrounding the various ways that DFO can seek science advice for example, through the Canadian Science Advisory Secretariat or the Aquaculture Collaborative Research and Development Program. DFO noted that the AMAC may opt to make recommendations related to Science advice.
- **ACTION 2: The members agreed that a subcommittee would be struck to look at issues relating to the number of committee members and representation of various groups on the AMAC.**
- **ACTION 3: DFO staff will work with FNFC staff to identify any wording in the current Terms of Reference that raised concern related to First Nations interests, and proposed alternate wording will be tabled at the next AMAC meeting.**

Review of Meeting Facilitation Statement of Work and Discussion

- This item was deferred.

Review of Draft Marine Finfish Integrated Management of Aquaculture Plan (IMAP) and Discussion

- Brenda M^cCorquodale of DFO presented PowerPoint slides on the Draft Marine Finfish Integrated Management of Aquaculture Plan (IMAP).
- It was noted that the background information was removed from the Draft Marine Finfish Integrated Management of Aquaculture Plan (IMAP), and a separate document has been



compiled with this information. This information was not circulated to the committee at this time.

- Some participants expressed concern with the proposed timeframes for the IMAP.
- It was noted that before committee members can comment on the completeness of the IMAP they should review the information contained in the Backgrounder.
- Some First Nations' representatives stated that the First Nations Fisheries Council compiled First Nations' comments with regard to the draft IMAP.
- There was concern expressed with regard to the lack of reference in the draft IMAP to the National Aquaculture Strategic Action Plan Initiative (NASAPI).
- Some First Nations' representatives noted that they would like to have more opportunity for Tier 1 First Nations meetings and bilateral meetings to take place in advance of substantive discussion at the advisory committee level on the IMAPs.
- Meeting participants asked that a copy of the powerpoint slides be emailed out to committee members. DFO agreed to do this as a follow up item. **ACTION 4: DFO to email powerpoint slides to committee members.**

Priorities, Process, Expectations and Timelines for Future Meetings

- This item was deferred.
- DFO committed to arranging a Marine Finfish Aquaculture Management Advisory Committee meeting in Fall 2013.

Action Items:

#	DESCRIPTION	LEAD	TARGET DATE
1	DFO and First Nations will continue to work to create greater clarity around Tier 1 and Tier 2 First Nations aquaculture meetings.	- FNFC - DFO	As soon as possible
2	The members agreed that a subcommittee would be struck to look at issues relating to the number of committee members and representation of various groups on the AMAC.	- DFO	As soon as possible
3	DFO staff will work with FNFC staff to identify any wording in the current Terms of Reference that raised concern related to First Nations interests, and proposed alternate wording will be tabled at the next AMAC meeting.	- DFO- FNFC	1 month
4	DFO to email powerpoint slides to committee members.	- DFO	As soon as possible

Notes prepared by M Fitzgerald, / Edited by B McCorquodale (DFO) / Amended May 16/2013