

FNFC/DFO Aquaculture Working Group (AWG)

**A Presentation for the 2010 FNFC Fall Assembly
November 4, 2010**

Outline:

- Membership
- Context
 - FNFC
 - DFO
- Work Plan
 - Objectives
 - Proposed Outcomes
- Other Aquaculture Related Initiatives
 - NASAPI
- Next Steps

AWG Members:

First Nation Members:

- Chief Bob Chamberlin (First Nation Chair)
- Cliff Atleo
- Jeff Thomas
- Richard Hardy
- Tracy Sampson
- *One seat to be filled*

DFO Members:

- Andy Thomson
- Sean Wouters
- Gary Reay
- Anita Bedo

Context - FNFC

- *Statement of Jurisdiction/Statement of Solidarity* Resolutions passed by BCAFN/UBCIC/FNS in Fall 2009
- Community Sessions in Feb/March 2010, resulting in a Wrap Up Report released in May 2010
 - **Main Themes heard:**
 1. Acknowledgement of First Nations Title and Rights
 2. Conservation and Restoration of wild stocks and their habitats must be priority
 3. There are concerns with the process for conducting consultation on the regulations and co-management of aquaculture
 4. First Nations want to play an active role in tenure and license decisions in their territories
 5. First Nations want improved transparency
 6. Management should be based on sound science and environmental assessments
 7. Regulations need to be adaptive and reviewed in a fixed period of time (i.e. 5 years)
 8. Monitoring of the industry must to be broad and inclusive
 9. Enforcement must to be more stringent
 10. First Nations need capacity to effectively participate in this industry

Context - DFO

- High level of interest among BC First Nations on aquaculture issues resulted in joint DFO – FNFC Aquaculture Working Group (2009)
- In early 2010, DFO and FNFC collaborated to engage First Nations in BC on DFO's proposed *Pacific Aquaculture Regulations*
- BC First Nations were invited to attend 10 information sessions held in communities across BC to discuss the regulatory regime for aquaculture
 - The FNFC prepared a report summarizing the concerns and interests of First Nations during the information sessions
- During the summer of 2010 DFO and the FNFC members of the Working Group developed a draft Aquaculture Workplan
 - \$75 K to support Workplan initiatives
- Key focus is on developing a plan to engage First Nations on supporting operational polices, including Integrated Management of Aquaculture Plans (IMAPs)

Workplan:

- Drafting of a Plan for First Nations participation and engagement in the development of the new 'Management Framework' for B.C. aquaculture
 - 'Management Framework' includes the development of policies, operational guidelines, licenses & conditions, and the process and substance related to the development of Integrated Aquaculture Management Plans.

IMAPs

- Developing IMAPs, based on IFMPs, will be a key focus for DFO in the coming months
- IMAPs will facilitate stakeholder and First Nations involvement in early planning stages
- Shift from a site-by-site focus to an area based management approach
- DFO is in the early stages of developing IMAPs and value the FNFC playing a role to help us develop these important tools
- Key considerations include how to involve First Nations and determining the geographic boundaries for IMAP

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Workplan: Proposed Outcomes

- Clarify and identify how First Nations, at a community/ Nation, aggregate, and B.C.-wide scale can/will be engaged in the development of the new Management Framework.
- To provide advice from First Nations to DFO as to how they would most effectively work with First Nations on these issues.
- To develop a plan and shared expectations relating to the development of the management framework

Other Aquaculture Initiatives: NASAPI

(National Aquaculture Strategic Action Planning Initiative)

- An initiative of DFO-Ottawa
- 5 'Action Plans'
 - West Coast Finfish
 - West Coast Shellfish
 - East Coast Finfish (drafted)
 - East Coast Shellfish (drafted)
 - National Freshwater (drafted)
- Potential meeting
- Timelines

Next Steps

- Draft aquaculture licences and conditions sent to First Nations this past week for comments
- DFO is seeking input on the licencing approach and meeting with interested First Nations
- Regulations will be finalized in early December, and licences need to be issued by Dec. 18th
- AWG will be hosting a meeting to discuss Integrated Management of Aquaculture Plans (IMAP) Development in early 2011

Questions?