

From: Fowler, Nancy
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2008 9:48 AM
To: Lindale, Stewart <LindaleS@DFO-MPO.GC.CA>; Porter, Edward <PorterE@DFO-MPO.GC.CA>; Thomson, Andrew <Andrew.Thomson@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Cc: Young, Tim <YOUNGT@DFO-MPO.GC.CA>
Subject: RE: US senators and BC fish farms

Hi Everyone - Here are some links on aquaculture website. They are designed to address many of the misperceptions that surround salmon farming and aquaculture. They are public accessible materials, therefore additional approval to distribute is not required.

Myths & Realities about Salmon Farming: http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/media/backgrou/2005/salmon_e.htm

Fact Sheets: http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/aquaculture/facts_e.htm

FAQs: http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/aquaculture/faq_toc_e.htm

Closed Containment Technology for Salmon Aquaculture: http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/aquaculture/innovation_e.htm#2

Attached are some approved, generic key messages that pertain to aquaculture in BC:

Key Messages - Generic

- The Government of Canada is committed to the responsible and sustainable development of the aquaculture industry in Canadian waters.
- Well-managed fish farms do not pose an unmanageable risk to wild salmon populations or the marine environment. B.C.'s aquaculture industry operates under strict federal and provincial regulatory regime to ensure our marine ecosystems are not compromised.
- Much is known about aquaculture's footprint, and DFO acknowledges that there is an impact. just as all human activity has an impact. DFO's management framework for aquaculture is risk-based and vigilant to prevent irreversible loss of the natural environment.
- DFO encourages the research of innovative technologies, such as integrated multi-trophic aquaculture and "closed containment" technologies, to further improve the environmental performance of the industry.
- DFO science respects the efforts of other researchers who are dedicated to protecting wild salmon, and will continue to work with other collaborators toward this outcome.
- DFO is committed to evolving its management of the industry as new scientific information and new technologies become available.

Key Messages - Sea Lice

- DFO is presently in its 6th year of monitoring juvenile pink and chum salmon for sea lice in the Broughton Archipelago.
- DFO laboratory studies continue to show no evidence of a negative impact to juvenile pink salmon as a result of exposure to farm-sourced sea lice.
- Overall infection rates on wild Pacific salmon appear to be declining in the Broughton Archipelago, 5% in 2007, 15% in 2005 and 12% in 2006.
- There is no 'sea lice epidemic' because farmed fish are monitored regularly and treated, or removed from the pen, if more than 3 mobile sea lice per fish are detected during periods of salmon migration.
- Significant fluctuations in Pink salmon returns are on record since 1953, long before salmon farms were introduced to the area in 1987.
- Despite claims to the contrary in the Broughton Archipelago, wild Pacific salmon in the Broughton region are not disappearing. Returns of summer and fall chum salmon in the Broughton region were quite strong.
- It is the view of Fisheries and Oceans Canada that the study published in Science in December 2007 overstates the risk to pink salmon in the Broughton Archipelago, and that the estimated trend in adult returns is not consistent with those actually observed since 2002.

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From: Lindale, Stewart
Sent: April 14, 2008 11:45 AM
To: Porter, Edward
Cc: Young, Tim; Fowler, Nancy; Thomson, Andrew
Subject: FW: US senators and BC fish farms

Ed,

Please take the lead on this and work with Andy and Nancy. Tim, can we get some more direction on the specific issues of interest?

Stewart

From: Young, Tim
Sent: April 14, 2008 11:42 AM
To: Lindale, Stewart
Subject: US senators and BC fish farms

One of our Washington Embassy people are attending a meeting of US senators where there will be discussion on fish issues. One of the issues may concern BC fish farms. Do you have anything off the shelf that may be of use. Responsive speaking points would be helpful. Unfortunately DFAIT is looking for this by end of today (Monday). May be a good opportunity to counter any negatives as some of the senators involved are from Alaska.