

**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND
CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY
BULLETS**

October 30, 2018

File: 280-20

CLIFF/eApprovals #: 328337/12160

PREPARED FOR: Honourable George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (ENV)

SUBJECT: Minister meeting with Mark Angelo, Chair of the Outdoor Recreation Council of BC (ORC) regarding Heart of the Fraser and general issues surrounding fish and rivers, on November 15, 11:15am.

BULLET RESPONSE:

- The Province thanks the ORC for its continued work on water conservation and ecosystem protection in BC.
- Since the last meeting with ORC in March 2018, the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNR) and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) staff have continued their work on the Fraser River.
- Regarding applications to build two bridges, one to each of Herrling and Carey islands to facilitate intensive agriculture operations, FLNR has not yet made a decision. The applications remain under review, and timelines for a decision are unknown.
- DFO had launched a separate investigation earlier in the year regarding impacts of forest harvesting activities and non-compliance; the investigation is still underway.
- DFO has notified the applicants of non-compliance with the Fisheries Act (federal), and DFO fishery protection program staff are drafting remediation plans that must be undertaken by the applicants. The applicants are cooperative and keen to become compliant with the Fisheries Act as soon as possible.
- DFO and FLNR continue to monitor for ecosystem impacts from forest harvesting activities.
- Regarding the February 2018 emergency endangered species listing of the Interior Steelhead Trout: DFO and provincial government scientists continue to document advice and information from the science peer review and advisory process, gathered in the first of three formal publications regarding the listing (Science Advice Report). The report is anticipated to be published by DFO very soon.
- ENV continues to focus on supporting *Water Sustainability Act* implementation, such as bringing groundwater users into the water licensing system and leading the development of priority regulations and policies. A Water Sustainability Fund is not planned for development at this time.

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**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND
CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY
MEETING NOTE**

October 11, 2018

File: 280-20

CLIFF/eApprovals #: 332217/11847

PREPARED FOR: Honourable George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (ENV)

ISSUE: Minister meeting with BC Agriculture Council (BCAC) on the Organic Matter Recycling Regulation and the Agricultural Waste Control Regulation, November 6, 3 pm.

BACKGROUND:

The Agricultural Waste Control Regulation (AWCR) regulates the management of agricultural waste (e.g., manure storage and land application), and the Organic Matter Recycling Regulation (OMRR) regulates the processing and land application of organic waste, including biosolids and compost. Biosolids and compost produced under the OMRR are often land applied at agricultural operations.

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s.14 An industry working group was established to help inform policy development.

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The OMRR review is currently in the consultation phase, with an intentions paper posted for comment until November 8, 2018.^{s.13}

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DISCUSSION:

- The AWCR and OMRR facilitate beneficial re-use of organic waste materials.
- The proposed amendments to both regulations will continue to support beneficial use of these materials, but will introduce changes needed to ensure protection of human health and the environment, and to improve transparency.
- The new Ministers Regulation for the agriculture sector is expected to be approved by the end of November 2018. It will not be effective until the end of February 2019 and will not be announced until early January 2019.
- The AWCR industry working group has reviewed a previous draft of the regulation; however, sharing the latest draft is difficult due to tight timelines and managing expectations with respect to last minute changes. To address concerns, ENV staff have provided the working group with a summary of the changes to the previous draft.

- The majority of the costs and impacts to the agricultural industry are expected to result from the AWCRC amendments. Some government funding under Growing Forward 3 (a bilateral agreement between federal and provincial governments) is available, but is very limited.

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CONCLUSION:

- Government recognizes the financial impacts to the agricultural sector and has proposed a phased-in approach for new regulatory requirements to spread out cost impacts.
- The AWCRC and OMRR amendments are driven mainly by the need to protect human health and the environment.
- Government will dedicate internal resources to develop guidance and tools for industry, which is expected to help facilitate compliance and to promote awareness.
- Government will dedicate resources for compliance and enforcement to ensure a level playing field within the sector.

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**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND
CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY
BULLETS**

November 2, 2018

File: 280-20

CLIFF/eApprovals #:332770/12154

PREPARED FOR: Honourable George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (ENV)

SUBJECT: Minister Heyman meeting with Wild Salmon Forever, on November 8, 4:30pm, to discuss Pacific salmon in BC.

BULLET RESPONSE:

- Tony Allard:
 - Is Chairman of Wild Salmon Forever;
 - Is owner of Good Hope Cannery lodge;
 - Supports the Pacific Salmon Foundation and the Salish Sea Marine Survival Project;
 - Is an outspoken critic of salmon aquaculture in BC;
 - Has been a member of the Ministry of Agriculture's Advisory Council on Finfish Aquaculture through 2017-2018; and
 - Co-wrote an article in the Vancouver Sun on June 11th, 2018, urging the Provincial Government not to renew the open-net pen salmon farm tenures on June 20th, 2018.
- A Regulatory Proposal to consult on the ministry's proposed changes to the Integrated Pest Management Regulation was released on October 12, 2018. Stakeholders and the public are invited to offer feedback before November 30, 2018. Key elements of the proposal are:
 - Specifies that a permit is required for all sea lice treatments;
 - Requires use of well boats or other "closed containment" pesticide application technology;
 - Provides exemption for crisis situations where wild salmon may be threatened; and
 - Provides a one year transition period (to allow for more well boats or equivalent technology to be made available).
- The proposed regulations are in response to First Nations and public concerns about pesticides being applied in aquaculture.
- Pesticides used in aquaculture have been assessed by Health Canada to ensure their general use will not result in adverse impacts to human health and the environment.
- In response to recommendations from a recent ENV compliance verification audit of effluent discharge permits within the fish processing sector, the ministry has initiated a project to review, and where necessary amend, effluent discharge permits.
- The objective of the project is to ensure discharge permits in the fish processing sector contain up-to-date environmental protection requirements.
- It is estimated that it will take one year to review all 30 fish processing discharge permits, and complete the necessary amendments.

- Amendments for the large plants are being prioritized and are likely to be completed by end of year, or early in the new year.
- ENV is working to complete amendments to the permits for all 18 operational facilities by next spring, including the three large plants (which constitute 80% of seafood production from facilities with discharge permits).
- When the project was initiated last summer, communication was initiated with sector stakeholders, partner agencies and First Nations.
- It is likely that some facilities will need to upgrade their treatment systems as a result of the project.
- All facilities will need to have robust environmental monitoring programs to confirm that their discharges are not impacting the receiving environment, including wild salmon.
- A temporary permit amendment has already been issued to one facility to allow them to implement a pilot treatment plant. Additionally, one of the largest fish processors in the province is proposing to upgrade their effluent treatment system. These changes will significantly improve effluent quality.
- ENV staff has been collaborating extensively with Environment Canada on the project.

Attachment 1: Resource links

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Dir./Mgr.	TG/SS	Nov 1/18
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Attachment 1 – Resource Links

- The audit report is posted on the Ministry's website at:
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/research-monitoring-reporting/reporting/env-compliance-inspection-report/fish-processing-compliance-audit>.
- A separate website has also been set up for the permit amendment project to communicate with the public and stakeholders about the project: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content?id=B1F28EF155C149778C0A7EFE4BC80EF3> Failure to follow the above, will result in items being returned to the appropriate ADMO for action.

**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND
CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY
BULLETS**

October 25, 2018

File: 280-20

CLIFF/eApprovals #: 333168/12162

PREPARED FOR: Honourable George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

SUBJECT: Minister meeting with BC Cattlemen's Association (BCCA), November 5th, 3:00 p.m.

BULLET RESPONSE:

Draft Livestock Watering Regulation (LSW)

- BCCA comments on the LSW intentions paper (IP) and help with promoting the new *Water Sustainability Act* (WSA) requirements for groundwater licensing are appreciated.
- LSW will align with the Agricultural Waste Control Regulation and include clarity on requirements for use of dugouts.
- Ministry staff will be following up with BCCA in November with an update on the LSWIP.

Nicola Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

- Since March 2018, focus has been on relationship-building between the Nicola Chiefs and the Province. No decisions have been made on priority issues within the watershed.
- The Province and Nicola Chiefs are currently exploring options and timing for stakeholder engagement, with initial stakeholder meetings, including the BCCA, expected to occur within the next couple of months or early in the new year. The focus of these meetings will be to inform a characterization of watershed uses and issues. No decisions have been made on priority issues within the watershed or studies and projects to be undertaken.

Livestock Protection Program (LPP)

- We recognize BCCA's success in running the LPP (verifying and mitigating wolf and coyote attacks on cattle, cows and sheep).
- BCCA is encouraged to continue to work with our colleagues in the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNR)

Forage

- BCCA's request for the addition of a new objective for forage under the *Forest and Range Practices Act* (FRPA) should be directed to FLNR (responsible for FRPA).

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**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND
CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY
BULLETS**

November 29, 2018

File: 280-20

CLIFF/eApprovals #: 336146/12639

PREPARED FOR: David Morel, Assistant Deputy Minister, Environmental Protection
Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

SUBJECT: Eveline Xia and staff briefing MLA Kahlon re: the Enviro-Smart Organics
composting facility on November 30.

BULLET RESPONSE:

Regulating discharges to air – Metro Van

- Metro Vancouver (MV) has the delegated authority to issue air discharge permits for facilities in their region. Accordingly, MV's permit application process operates independently from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy's process (ENV).
- MV issued an air discharge permit to Enviro-Smart in August 2018. Conditions include that the composting operations be fully enclosed by 2020.
- Enviro-Smart and a number of residents are appealing the permit.
- Compost facilities are more complex to regulate than industrial sources of odours because it is difficult to identify one specific contaminant that can be measured and managed.
- Information is shared between our agencies to ensure the best available information is used to support decision making under the *Environmental Management Act*. ENV and MV maintain regular communications on odour management issues. ENV staff are aware of issues raised regarding the air discharge permitting process.

Regulating discharges to land and water - ENV

- While ENV does not have jurisdiction over air emissions (odours) from this facility, we do regulate, by permit (#108476), any discharges to land or water.
- Compliance with permit conditions is checked by on-site and document inspections.
 - An on-site inspection was conducted November 22, 2017 resulting in an Advisory (lowest level of non-compliance) being issued because information was missing from entrance signage (attachment 1).
 - A document inspection in 2016 found that the 2016 annual report was submitted three months after the March 31 due date and did not record if any emergency responses occurred and the emergency plan had not been updated.
 - Based on a report from facility staff on January 30, 2018, ENV issued an Advisory for exceeding permit limits for maximum annual volume of compostable materials discharged with a value of 166K tonnes. The permit limit is 150K tonnes.
 - An on-site inspection on November 22, 2018 resulted in an Advisory for: composting unauthorized materials(soiled paper and waxed corrugated cardboard); not conducting a mercury analysis in 2017 on the construction water

pond; submitting the annual report 4 days late and submitting the annual design update and operating plan more than 30 days late.

- Advisories are not generally followed up on until the next scheduled inspection due to the minor nature of permit non-compliance.

Attachment 1: List of information missing from facility entrance sign

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Attachment 1
Information missing from facility entrance sign

Address of the facility

Owner and operator

Hours of operation

Materials accepted and not accepted at the facility:

Accepts:

- yard and garden material
- food waste (residential and commercial)
- soiled paper
- corrugated cardboard
- manure
- clean untreated wood waste
- liquid vacuum truck waste

Does not accept:

- plastics, metal and other household waste
- hazardous waste
- dead animals
- abattoir waste
- hatchery waste
- fish waste
- chicken manure
- treated wood
- biosolids
- wastewater treatment plant sludge, grit and screenings