

From: [Neilson, Larry AGRI:EX](#)
To: [Hewitt, Jeremy IGRS:EX](#)
Cc: [Hrycuik, Lorie AGRI:EX](#); [Travia, David V AGRI:EX](#); [Roth, Myron AGRI:EX](#); [Carswell, Barron AGRI:EX](#); [Turner, Michael R AGRI:EX](#); [Sparling, Anika IGRS:EX](#); [Boelens, Robert GCPE:EX](#); [Mack, James AGRI:EX](#)
Subject: RE: ALERT 2: New Fish Farm Occupation - Swanson Island - comms with WDFG re escapes
Date: Friday, September 1, 2017 2:37:24 PM

Hi again Jeremy:

A quick update:

I had a call from DFO this morning.

Among other things they confirmed that they are working regularly with officials at WDF&G – they are having daily calls to update on the situation and actions.

For DFO the Atlantic Salmon Watch (ASW) is operational and reporting any Atlantic salmon confirmed in CDN waters – 6 reported to date. They will continue stream walks (and perhaps a few more this fall).

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/science/aquaculture/aswp/index-eng.html>

ADFG has a good website with maps and online reporting for the Atlantic salmon:

http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/salmon/atlantic_salmon_catch.php

Hope this helps, Larry

From: Hewitt, Jeremy IGRS:EX
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2017 11:17 AM
To: Neilson, Larry AGRI:EX
Cc: Hrycuik, Lorie AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: ALERT 2: New Fish Farm Occupation - Swanson Island
Merci!

On Aug 25, 2017, at 11:15 AM, Neilson, Larry AGRI:EX <Larry.Neilson@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Jeremy – I checked in with DFO Regional Director. Here what he said:

We're in contact with them about it, and we've offered the use of our reporting line if they want to use it. We could but havnt yet made an offer of additional assistance but I'm not sure what else would be needed.

Andrew J L Thomson

Regional Director | Directeur Régionale

Fisheries Management Branch | Direction de la gestion des pêches

Pacific Region | Region du Pacifique

Fisheries & Oceans Canada | Pêches et Océans Canada

Hope this helps,

Larry

From: Neilson, Larry AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2017 10:42 AM
To: Hewitt, Jeremy IGRS:EX
Subject: RE: ALERT 2: New Fish Farm Occupation - Swanson Island
Will do...

I suspect that someone at DFO is working with /liaising with counterpart at WDFG...but I don't know that for sure.

Larry

From: Hewitt, Jeremy IGRS:EX

Sent: Friday, August 25, 2017 10:26 AM

To: Neilson, Larry AGRI:EX

Subject: Re: ALERT 2: New Fish Farm Occupation - Swanson Island

Thanks Larry. If you hear anything about BC/Canada working with the WA/US on the response please let me know.

J

Sent from my iPad

On Aug 25, 2017, at 9:58 AM, Neilson, Larry AGRI:EX

<Larry.Neilson@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

The latest update...

Larry

s.14

s.14

Page 04 to/à Page 05

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.14

From: [Neilson, Larry AGRI:EX](#)
To: [Hewitt, Jeremy IGRS:EX](#)
Cc: [Hrycuik, Lorie AGRI:EX](#); [Travia, David V AGRI:EX](#); [Boelens, Robert GCPE:EX](#)
Subject: FW: ALERT 2: DFO protest / Salmon fish farm release
Date: Thursday, August 24, 2017 9:41:59 AM
Attachments: [IN Atlantic salmon escape Aug 23 17 DRAFT.DOCX](#)

Jeremy – here is one update via IRR from last night.
And our draft Issues Note: (please note that it is still draft)
Cheers, Larry

From: Neilson, Larry AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2017 8:56 PM
To: Mack, James AGRI:EX; Hrycuik, Lorie AGRI:EX; Travia, David V AGRI:EX; Carswell, Barron AGRI:EX; Turner, Michael R AGRI:EX; Roth, Myron AGRI:EX; Boelens, Robert GCPE:EX
Subject: Fwd: ALERT 2: DFO protest / Salmon fish farm release
James. The latest update just in from IRR. Things seem to be escalating. Larry

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

s.14

Thank you,

Melissa

MELISSA K. GRIMES, M.A.

Senior Analyst | Critical Incidents and Emergency Management Branch

Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

O (250) 953-3046 | C (778) 678-4900

Confidential Issues Note - ADVICE TO MINISTER

Ministry of Agriculture Date: August 23, 2017 Minister Responsible: Hon. Lana Popham	Atlantic Salmon Escape
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- I was concerned to hear about the escape of the salmon from Washington State.
- DFO is the lead agency in Canada, and as the escape occurred at a U.S. facility subject to U.S. regulation, we trust they will work with their US counterparts to ensure appropriate actions are taken.
- Ministry staff are and will stay in contact with their federal colleagues to share information and updates.
- British Columbians who catch Atlantic Salmon should report it to the federal government's Atlantic Salmon Watch Program @ 1-800-811-6010 or <http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/science/aquaculture/aswp/index-eng.html>

KEY FACTS:

- On Saturday, Aug. 19, 2017, media reported about 300,000 salmon escaped a fish farm net in the San Juan Islands due to high tides resulting from the eclipse. No such events took place in B.C. waters.
- British Columbians who catch what they believe to be an Atlantic salmon should keep the fish and report it to the Atlantic Salmon Watch Program hotline.
- Media have reported that experts have offered mixed opinions about the potential impact:
 - The chief biologist of the Pacific Salmon Commission Michael Lapointe, which manages salmon stocks under a treaty between Canada and the United States, said the release is unlikely to harm wild salmon over the long term.
 - John Volpe, an associate professor at the University of Victoria studying the introduction of Atlantic salmon into B.C.'s waters, said there is simply not enough evidence to declare how these escaped fish will affect the region.
- Critics of salmon aquaculture in B.C. have reported that farmed salmon pose health risks, such as disease and sea lice, to wild salmon stocks.

Salmon farming in B.C.

- As of July 2017, there are 65 operating salmon farms in B.C.
- In 2015, there were 3 reported incidents, with 3 confirmed escaped fish; in 2016 there were 4 reported incidents, with 23 confirmed escaped fish.
- To minimize chances of escapes, the federal government requires that containment systems (such as net pens) must be able to withstand local weather and ocean conditions, including storms, water currents and other environmental factors. Systems are regularly inspected and maintained to

Confidential Issues Note - ADVICE TO MINISTER

ensure integrity and to control biofouling and ice build-up, inspect for marine mammal interactions or other factors that could contribute to failures of the containment system.

Communications Contact:

Program Area Contact:

s.14,s.16

s.14,s.16