

Smelt FIP

April 16/20, 12:00 ET – Smelt FIP Committee Conference Call Notes

On the call: John Neate – GLF, Brian Locke – OMNRF, Rich Drouin – OMNRF, Mike Thorne – OMNRF, Colleen Hawthorne – OCFA, Ulysses Pratas – PFL, , Jane Graham – OCFA.

- Review of the Notes of October 7/19 – the notes were accepted as presented.
- Jane noted that FisheryProgress required an Annual Project Update by the end of April 2020. A document had been distributed prior to the meeting that included an update of the current status of the Project and what is required to comply with the April 2020 reporting timeline. A brief description of the information in the document and any update/discussion follows:
 - 1) Overall Action Plan – Published Actions
 - It was noted that the Action Plan was on track
 - 2) October 2019 Report to FisheryProgress (FP)
 - The report was published by FisheryProgress in October and is currently available on-line
 - 3) Action Plan for Developing and Evaluating Harvest Strategy Options
 - It was reminded that the 'Detailed work plan for Action 1: Developing and evaluating harvest strategy options' was developed last September/October and was submitted to FisheryProgress as part of the progress report in October.
 - Jane noted that there were 3 Tasks in this Work Plan that were required to be completed by the end of May 2020 (note that the Annual Report is due on April 30th – an update on these Tasks will be provided in the Annual Report, however, completion of the following Tasks will be detailed in the October 2020 Progress Report):
 - Use the Risk Based Framework (CA, PSA) to calculate the MSC score by using the Risk Based Framework in scoring the different Performance Indicators (PIs)
 - Use the MSC standard/guidance in Fisheries Certification Requirements (FCR) section SA2.2.9 to determine if the fishery is targeting a key Lower Trophic Level (LTL) species – scoring can use the RBF (Risk Based Framework)
 - OCFA and LEMU to hold a meeting to 1) determine whether this species should be considered key LTL and 2) apply the RBF (Risk Based Framework)
 - The Ministry noted that they had initiated the process of gathering and reviewing information related to PSA and LTL
 - 4) Fishery Status Indicators
 - The Committee reviewed the Fishery Status Indicators and agreed that, while work had progressed, the Indicators had not changed since the FIP began. Jane indicated that this would be reflected in the Annual Progress Report.
- Actions/Timelines:
 - Jane to meet with Rich and Mike (MNR) to determine how to move forward to complete the Tasks required by the end of May 2020
 - Jane would complete the Annual Report and submit this to FisheryProgress to meet the April 2020 timeline

- Next Report is due at the end of October 2020. It was agreed that once the Tasks required to be completed by the end of May 2020 were completed that the Committee would meet in June to discuss a work plan to complete the next Tasks according to the Project timelines.
- The meeting adjourned at 12:21 pm.

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