

Cc: Waddington, Zac
Subject: Re: Clayoquot lice management

Thanks Ian. I will make sure everyone is informed and start on a response no day. [REDACTED]

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On May 11, 2018, at 4:02 PM, Keith, Ian <lan.Keith@dfo-mpo.gc.ca> wrote:

Hi [REDACTED]

DFO veterinarians have been monitoring the management of lice in Clayoquot, and have been in discussions with fish health and veterinary staff at Cermaq regarding plans for lice management since Fall 2017. These plans changed throughout early 2018, from 1) a January 11 plan to SLICE treat one farm pending favourable bioassay, and immediate harvest in anticipation of the outmigration period for those 3 farms where SLICE treatment was contraindicated ; to 2) a April 30 plan to peroxide-treat farms where there was exceedance during the outmigration period where SLICE treatment is contraindicated, and manage by harvest at the others. Note that the DFO response January 12 to the January 11 plan stated that when using harvest as a management tool in advance of the outmigration period, that harvesting would have to be finished by the end of February.

Millar is the only farm that has been harvested-out, to date, and none of Ross, Dixon, Mussel and Saranac, where the lice management plan is harvest, have met the required outcome of reduction in "absolute sea lice inventory" (as per licence condition 6.4(a)), based on lice data currently available to us (using average month inventory x average abundance).

While we appreciate the challenges, including delays in acquiring a Pesticide Use Permit for peroxide, we require further explanation and evidence that indicate to DFO what options have been pursued and exhausted by Cermaq that justify the current state of lice burden on numerous farms in Clayoquot.

Specifically:

- Area-based SLICE treatment in late September to early October at numerous sites in Clayoquot had reduced efficacy and duration of effect than what is expected. Please demonstrate how appropriate therapeutic SLICE use was ensured as per Merck's Slice Sustainability Project.
- How were other treatment measures considered such as increased processing capacity at other facilities, use of Marine Harvest Canada's Hydrolicer, an earlier start to harvest at affected farms, and any other options considered?
- What, if any, monitoring of smolt lice burden has Cermaq conducted to monitor for effects on wild salmon smolts?

s.19(1)

Please provide any information and/or documents to address the questions or that will assist in our assessment of compliance regarding this issue. I look forward to hearing from you by May 18, 2018. If you have any questions or required further clarification please do not hesitate to contact Zac Waddington at 250-703-0902 or Ian Keith at 250-703-0917.

Thanks for your attention concerning this issue.

Regards,
Ian

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s.16(2)(c)