

MARINE CONSERVATION CAUCUS
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December 14, 2009

Blair Hodgson
Director, International Fisheries Relations
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
200 Kent Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0E6

Dear Mr. Hodgson:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Marine Conservation Caucus (MCC). The Caucus was created by Environmental Non-Governmental Organizations (ENGOS) in the conservation sector at the request of the Minister to provide input to decision-making processes in the Pacific Region regarding Pacific fisheries and marine conservation. The MCC consists of the following ENGOS: Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society - BC Chapter, David Suzuki Foundation, Living Oceans Society, Pacific Streamkeeper Federation, Raincoast Conservation Foundation, Stewardship Centre for BC, Watershed Watch Salmon Society, and World Wildlife Fund Canada.

Thank you for taking the time to discuss Canada's objectives for the North Pacific RFMO treaty and interim measures negotiations, and for providing the supporting presentations. The consensus of the MCC is that Canada should be active in this initiative and supports your intended approach to Cabinet to seek the mandate to fully participate in the negotiations.

The conservation of species and habitat in the North Pacific is a matter of concern for all of Canada, and as such, the progress of these negotiations and the terms that are ultimately adopted for the treaty and the interim measures are of particular interest to many Canadian ENGOS. Thus, as an established forum by which Fisheries and Oceans Canada consults with members of the Pacific region conservation community, the MCC anticipates full consultation throughout the negotiation process. This will allow the MCC to work with your office in an efficient and constructive manner as the negotiations develop.

Thank you once again for your efforts to communicate with the MCC, and we look forward to developing a consultative relationship in time for the January meetings.

Sincerely,



Craig Orr, Ph.D.
MCC Chair

On Behalf of: Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, BC Chapter, David Suzuki Foundation, Living Oceans Society, Raincoast Conservation Foundation, and Watershed Watch Salmon Society

cc. Michael Pearson, Director General International Affairs