Salmon Aquaculture Dialogue

Coastal Alliance for Aquaculture Reform, Fundación Terram, Marine Harvest, Norwegian Seafood Federation, Pew Environment Group, SalmonChile, Salmon of the Americas, Skretting, WWF

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Salmon Aquaculture Dialogue

- Initiated by WWF in 2004
- One of several parallel aquaculture dialogues, all with similar goals
- Aim to transparently and credibly develop standards for environmentally and socially better aquaculture by species/species group
- Final goal is on-the-ground improvement in environmental and social performance

Goals

The goal of the dialogue is to identify a suite of principles for responsible salmon farming, and from these principles to develop measurable, performance-based standards that minimize or eliminate the key environmental and social impacts of salmon farming.

The Dialogue Process

- is science-based
- is focused on the key impacts
- is open to a wide range of interested participants
- is a forum to listen and try to respectfully resolve potential negative impacts of salmon farming and conflicts among stakeholders

Full Dialogue

Information exchange between:

- Steering Committee
- Team Leaders and TWG
- Scientists
- ENGOs
- Governments
- Industry Representatives
- Coastal Community Representatives
- Academia
- Retailers
- Open to all stakeholders

The Dialogue-Steering Committee

- Multi stakeholder Steering Committee (SC).
- The SC meets prior to full dialogue meetings and routinely by telephone/email.
- All SC decisions are made by consensus.
- The SC aims to move the Dialogue forward while incorporating ideas, issues, and concerns from the full Dialogue

Focal areas of impact

1. Benthic impacts and siting
2. Chemical inputs
3. Disease
4. Escapes
5. Feed
6. Nutrient loading and carrying capacity
7. Social Issues

TWG Formation Process

- Created a TWG for 5 of 7 key impacts, with 2 other groups being formed
- All dialogue members asked to propose experts
- All those recommended (>200) were interviewed regarding interest and expertise
- Team leaders were identified and, in turn, proposed teams for SC approval

Technical Working Groups

- Consist of scientists from the main salmon farming countries and to the extent possible are balanced by region and expertise, and approved through consensus by the SC.
- Work under the direction of a Team Leader who reports to the SC.
- TOR developed by Team Leaders with feedback from SC and full Dialogue

TWG Reports

1. Review of status of current research and understanding of issues.
2. Identify significant gaps and/or areas of disagreement.
3. Identify existing research efforts in the area.
4. Suggest scope, time-frame and cost for addressing gaps, including draft terms of reference for key research needs

State of Information Reports

- Create a common understanding for building consensus among participants
- Lay the basis for drafting of principles, criteria, indicators and standards

Principle - The guiding proposal for addressing an impact

Example:

- *Conserve and protect water resources*

Criteria - Specific areas to focus on in order to reduce an impact

Examples:

- *Effluents*
- *Contamination*
- *Nutrient Utilization*

Indicators - Points of measurement to determine extent of an impact

Examples:

- *Nitrogen concentration in effluent*
- *Presence of illegal drugs in farmed product*
- *Amount of phosphorus used per unit of production*

Standards - Quantitative performance level that will evaluate whether or not a principle is being achieved

Examples:

- *4 mg/L total nitrogen in effluent*
- *No detectable concentration of malachite green in fish tissue*
- *10 kg of total phosphorus/metric ton of fish harvested/year*

This Meeting

- Day one will focus on the issue of escapes with presentations by Dr. Eva Thorstad
- Day two will focus on the issue of benthic impacts and siting with presentations by Dr. Kenny Black
- Discussion and feedback on the reports will be incorporated into the standard development process
- The meeting will close with discussion on how to move forward with standard development. The end goal is to develop standards which will reduce impacts on the water.

http://worldwildlife.org/cci/dialogues/salmon.cfm

Thank you