

Sherry Sian

From: BlaisE@DFO-MPO.GC.CA
Sent: Thursday, September 18, 2003 10:57 AM
To: Sherry Sian; lstephenson@wascomgt.com
Cc: BalintD@DFO-MPO.GC.CA; DahlJ@DFO-MPO.GC.CA
Subject: RE: DFO concerns

Dear Sherry,

DFO has read the response below and assume a complete response to our September 17th letter is forthcoming. In the meantime, we have looked at the note below from Laurie Stephenson and have the following questions and concerns:

- Will the developer provide us with a reference for the published data it refers to below? i.e. Is the developer referring to Navigational Charts?

- DFO is concerned with the statement that "...drilling will be occurring before spawning season of trout...if present; and if there is some disturbance, the area involved is so small that it will not impact the spawning of the (lake) trout habitat".

Any works or undertakings that may result in the harmful alteration, destruction, or disruption (HADD) of fish habitat is prohibited under subsection 35(1) of *Fisheries Act* unless otherwise authorized under subsection 35(2). DFO will judge whether the developer's proposed project impacts upon fish habitat.

We know the developer understands that lake trout spawn in the fall and eggs hatch in the spring as it is stated in its DAR - page 21. DFO's position is that all mitigation options must be considered to prevent (small or large) impacts to fish habitat and that includes protecting fish eggs on those spawning shoals. The developer should also note that DFO's legislated mandate considers all fish habitat - not just lake trout habitat.

DFO would appreciate a respectful response from the developer to our September 17th letter.

Sincerely,

Elaine Blais

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Area Habitat Biologist| Biologiste, Habitat

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-----Original Message-----

From: Sherry Sian [mailto:ssian@mveirb.nt.ca]

Sent: Thursday, September 18, 2003 6:38 AM

To: BlaisE@DFO-MPO.GC.CA

Subject: FW: DFO concerns

Clarification from Mr. Stephenson re: drill depth. It will be sent to the distribution list for the information of all parties.

Sherry Sian, M.E.Des.
 Environmental Assessment Officer

9/19/2003

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-----Original Message-----

From: Laurie Stephenson [mailto:lstephenson@wascomgt.com]
Sent: Wednesday, September 17, 2003 3:44 PM
To: Sherry Sian
Subject: Re: DFO concerns

Dear Sherry,

In a follow up to the DFO concerns regarding the bathometric survey and the "confirmatory soundings" we took.

We did not produce any new data from the water depth data we took. Basicly we confirmed that the current published (by DFO) bathometric maps over the area we our proposing to drill is correct. If the DFO wants the hand scribbled notes, we will provide them. However since we do not intend to utilize them in any other way we feel it would be unprofessional to issue them onto the public record in there current form.

It begats the question of why the DFO is asking for this "unscientific data" given that it appears from the published DFO data that the area is below the spawning area of the trout habitat; that it is most apparent we will be drilling well before the actual spawning season of the trout in that habitat area if present; and that even if there is some disturbance, the area involved is so small that it will not impact the spawning of the trout habitat.

Trusting this is a satisfactory explanation of the potential impact on the trout spawning habitat.

Sincerely

Laurence Stephenson
Consultant
Consolidated Goldwin Ventures Ltd.
New Shoshoni Ventures Ltd.