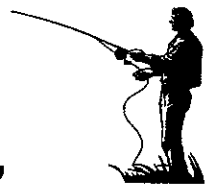




MERSEY BIO-DIVERSITY FACILITY SUPPORTERS SOCIETY
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Mersey Biodiversity Facility Supporters Society update: November 13, 2013

- Jan 29th 2013 Medway River Salmon Association forms a special projects committee.
- Feb 12 2013 a meeting is held and developed a mandate to “To collaborate with stakeholders to determine if there is sufficient interest in developing a process for the continued operation of the Mersey Biodiversity Facility”
- The Committee sets a date of March 7th to meet at Queens Place to understand level of interest
- Special Projects Committee host a meeting with stakeholders at Queens Place on March 7th 2013
- Meeting attended by representatives from: MRSA, Lahave River Salmon Assoc., Bluenose Costal Action Foundation, ASF, NSSA, Reg. of Queens, Queens County Fish and Game Assoc., Queens MLA
- General consensus is, that all persons in attendance are willing to proceed with developing a proposal that could potentially see the continued operations of MBF.
- March 13th 2013 MRSA and NSSA meets with NSPI representatives, NSPI very supportive but requested a 3-5 year viable business plan
- March 18th 2013 MBFSS sends letter to NSPI confirming current status
- March 23rd 2013 Mersey Biodiversity Facility Supporters Society is officially formed
- March 29th 2013 Provincial Minster of Fisheries sends letter to Federal Minster requesting a halt to removal of assets

- April 18th and 24th 2013 conference calls with DFO confirms they are getting out and there is no need to communicate with them and we should negotiate with NSPI
- April 30th with follow up on May 13th 2103 letters sent to DFO posing questions and clarification on assets and access to stocks
- May 1st with follow up letter sent May 13th to NSPI requesting date to present our business plan and to state in writing their issues and concerns so they could be address in our business plan
- May 15th 2013 DFO restates their position and tells us assets will continue to be moved off site and they cannot discuss access to fish as the effort to develop management scenarios for Southern Uplands is underway and I cannot presume what conclusions that process will come to.
- June 6th 2013 MBFSS receives letter from NSPI stating we now need not just a 3-5 year viable business plan but we also need :
 - Approval from DFO to harvest, grow and disperse the fish in question
 - A viable 3-5 year business plan for an alternate approach
 - A plan that does not include significant support from commercial aquaculture



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Mersey Biodiversity Facility Supporters Society update: November 13, 2013

June 18, 2013 another meeting held with Sterling Belliveau, NS Fisheries and his staff. They supported us in principle but nothing developed from this meeting.

Early July Meeting of the Mersey Biodiversity Facility Supporters Society. It was decided after receiving Faith Scattolon's rejection letter that we needed to meet her face to face.

July 18, 2013 meeting with Faith Scattolon, DFO Alain Vezina DFO, Carl Purcell NSSA, Lewis Hinks ASF, Michael Fralic MBFSS. Faith confirmed her position about us not obtaining the facility and that she would like to see it decommissioned by August 31/2013.

MBFSS contacted new DFO fisheries Minister – Gail Shea's office and with the help of her staff were able to have the deadlines pushed back to Nov 30, 2013. We were also instructed to apply for introductions and transfer permits for the Medway River and Sackville river and Atlantic Whitefish. (Projects that we choose)

These applications were submitted in the middle September/2013 because of the hard work of David Dagley and other ex DFO personnel.

Throughout August/September/October applications and requests were made for various funding proposals. They all hinged on DFO approval of the introduction & transfers permits. To date we have some funding sources that are interested –depending on the outcome with our permit applications.

August/2013 Emera Foundation – Funding Request turned down on October 20, 2013 after careful consideration.

October/2013 – The new Provincial liberal Fisheries minister has been contacted and he replied in writing that he looked forward to working with us. – Unsure what this means –working on clarification.

October/2013 received word from Gail Shea's Staff that they could not help us push the deadlines back any further.



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October 28, 2013 received letter from Faith Scattolon, DFO turning down our introduction and transfers permit applications – for lack of information ?????????? B.S.

October/2013 efforts are being made to get a meeting with Chris Huskison , Emera INC CEO. Emera /NSPC will have the finally say. Still waiting on November 7, 2013.

Respectfully Submitted

Michael Fralic
