

## **Notes from the Meeting Between DFO-HMD and Bilcon of Nova Scotia July 29, 2005**

In attendance: Paul Buxton - Project Manager, Bilcon  
Dave Kearns - Consultant, Bilcon  
John Wall – Mineral Assets Manager, Clayton  
Heidi Schaefer - SARA Biologist, DFO-HMD  
Marci Penney-Ferguson - Section Head, DFO-HMD  
Ted Potter – EA and Major Projects Division Manager  
Phil Zamora – Habitat Management Biologist, DFO-HMD  
Thomas Wheaton - Area Habitat Coordinator– DFO  
Brian Jollymore - Habitat Management Biologist, DFO-HMD

### **HADD of fish habitat**

DFO has reviewed the second draft of the habitat compensation plan submitted by Bilcon. The proponent is proposing the installation of artificial lobster shelters designed by Jacques Whitford consultants that have been used in the recent past in other marine compensation plans.

DFO acknowledged that the proponent had included a conceptual monitoring strategy within the plan to assess effectiveness and compliance. However, DFO will need to review the details of the monitoring when they become available.

DFO supports the proponent's proposal to construct marine growth enhancement structures along the piles in order to compensate for the water column portion of the HADD.

An application has been submitted by the proponent to the Navigable Waters Protection Program with Transport Canada for the habitat compensation structures.

### **Blasting**

DFO has reviewed the paper provided by JASCO in light of the current expert advice provided by DFO. DFO Regional Advisory Process office has been asked to formulate a Science Expert Opinion document regarding the potential effects of sound from blasting at the proposed Whites Point Quarry on marine mammals in the Bay of Fundy.

Bilcon expressed an interest to help enhance the knowledge base for this issue. They are very interested in the establishment of a threshold for them to work with, not only for the North Atlantic right whale but also for iBoF Atlantic salmon. DFO maintains that the issue of the sound effects on behaviour are not well understood and that is why they have asked for a review, specifically, of this concern.