

7 October 2003

Dear Stakeholder

Attached for your information are copies of the original signed versions of the 2003-04 SQU6T sea lion Operational Plan, and the Final Advice Paper. These reflect the decisions released today by the Minister of Fisheries.

Key features of the 2003-04 plan include the Minister of Fishery's decision to set the SQU6T sea lion MALFiRM at 62 animals, and to allow for a 20% discount factor applied to the strike rate for qualifying SLED vessels.

Details on the MALFiRM, monitoring procedures, reporting arrangements, the discount factor, and other features are provided in the Operational Plan.

Yours sincerely

Jim Cornelius
Senior Fisheries Management Advisor
Ministry of Fisheries