Environmental Monitoring of Marine Aquaculture in Canada

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Aquaculture in Canada
Environmental Monitoring Methods
Applications to Management

Canada-Chile Meetings – March, 2006

Pacific Atlantic Canada 5050 km

Atlantic Canada

Gulf of St. Lawrence

New **Brunswick** Nova Sco

Bay of Fundy

Quebec

1100 Km Atlantic Ocean

Newfoundland

Image © 2006 MDA EarthSat

Pointer 46°02'51.46" N 61°44'32.39" W elev -12 ft Streaming |||||||| 100%

Eye alt 394.43 mi

Google[.]



Nova Scotia











8

- BOOM

British Columbia

Pacific Ocean

W DE

Pointer 49°50'44.37" N 125°47'15.13" W elev 1627 ft

Streaming ||||||||| 100%

S APPO

Image © 2006 MDA EarthSat

Eye alt 239.03 mi

Google

448

British Columbia

Environmental Vonitoring Program

Requirements - Species and level of production Ecosystem capacity / sensitivity - Latest science techniques Responsive – Address areas of concern - Delineate effect / reference sites Accurate Appropriate parameters to detect effect Qualitative & quantitative Manageable Large data sets Effective decision making **Cost Effective**

Water Column Monitoring

Parameters

 Salinity, temperature, oxygen, Chlorophyll, SPM, organic content & nutrients

Secchi depth

- Methods
 - Surface & bottom vs profiles
- Pros/Cons
 - Far-field / ecosystem effects
 - Spatially & temporally variable
 - Costly



Sediment Monitoring

Parameters

- Redox (Eh), sulphides, porosity, organic content & grain size
- Benthic classification methods

Methods

- Sediment cores (grab or diver)
- Benthic Video
- Pros/Cons
 - Effects concentrated & persistent
 - Qualitative & quantitative
 - Site-specific (Near-field)





Sediment Organic Enrichment



Adapted from Pearson & Rosenberg (1978), by C McKindsey

Environmental Quality Definitions











Bay Management

Station Year

- December 2000
- May 2001
- December 2002 0
- June 2003 0
- October 2004 0
- September 2005 0
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Sulphides Levels (uM)





Summary

Aquaculture is varied in scale and effect
Requires risk-based approach
Sulfides most effective indicator
Remediation planning and action
Bay management