

Freshwater Trout Aquaculture Dialogue

Draft Goals and Objectives 19 November 2008

Goals

Develop and implement verifiable environmental and social performance levels for the global market that are acceptable to the Freshwater Trout Aquaculture Dialogue FTAD stakeholders to measurably reduce or eliminate key negative impacts of freshwater trout farming while ensuring product quality and economic viability.

Objectives

1. Create a forum to identify and share information on freshwater trout production;
2. Ensure open and transparent dissemination of information between the stakeholders participating in the FTAD;
3. Agree on key areas of impacts of freshwater trout farming;
4. Agree on a set of principles and criteria for freshwater trout aquaculture;
5. Create a web-based resource of current freshwater trout farming information, related to the priorities mentioned above;
6. Document and analyze environmental and social BMPs (Better Management Practices) and their cost and benefits to freshwater trout farming, the environment and society;
7. Obtain funding for un-funded and emerging research priorities;
8. Agree on principles, criteria, and performance-based, measurable and verifiable standards for environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable freshwater trout farming based on the research and standard-setting process;
9. Disseminate findings to all stakeholders;
10. All stakeholders commit to support and encourage use of BMPs to achieve performance levels;
11. Encourage producers commit to implement BMPs to achieve performance levels;
12. Integrate findings into BMP-based codes of conduct and certification programs; and
13. Continuously update the body of knowledge on freshwater trout aquaculture to ensure current practices and approaches to freshwater trout farming are the best available and are implemented.

To achieve these objectives, the participants in the FTAD agree to:

- Maintain open, honest, and respectful communications;
- Acknowledge that industry, NGOs and other stakeholders will continue their work while the Dialogue is on-going;
- Honor differences in experiences;
- Challenge assumptions and foster understanding;
- Set up a steering committee, technical working groups, and other advisory groups as needed that reflect the interests of the range of engaged stakeholders;
- Agree to the procedures for interaction between the Dialogue, the steering committee, technical working groups, advisory committees and the public at large;

- Agree to strategy and content for external communications about the Dialogue, to be adopted by the steering committee;
- As needed, commission expert reviews on the identified key impact areas, to be completed using terms of reference (TORs) and researchers agreed upon by the steering committee;
- Review proposed project concepts for FTAD activities before they are presented to potential funding sources or researchers;
- Agree to terms of reference (TORs) for agreed upon research priorities;
- Identify researchers acceptable to the group, and support work by said researchers that meet the TORs, and accept outcomes of the research; and,
- Inform and include, when possible, other committed parties in the Dialogue.