

From: Wambolt, Michael
Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 7:37 AM
To: Delaney, Leanda
Subject: FW: Urgent - Significant fish mortality event

Just FYI on the short briefing I sent up yesterday.

Mike Wambolt (he/him/il/lui)
A/Manager | Gestionnaire
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Regulatory Reviews | Examens Réglementaires
Ecosystems Management | Gestion des Ecosystemes
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From: Williams, Wendy <Wendy.Williams@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: Monday, June 12, 2023 3:44 PM
To: Wambolt, Michael <Michael.Wambolt@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: Urgent - Significant fish mortality event

Perfect. Thank you!

From: Wambolt, Michael <Michael.Wambolt@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: Monday, June 12, 2023 3:40 PM
To: Williams, Wendy <Wendy.Williams@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: Urgent - Significant fish mortality event

Hi Wendy,

- On June 1st the Province issued a State of Emergency and subsequently an Emergency Order was issued to close the gates of the Aboiteau on the Avon River in order to refill the reservoir.
- DFO Ecosystems Management and Conservation and Protection Staff were notified of an ongoing fish mortality event downstream of the Avon River Aboiteau late on Friday June 9, 2023.
- The Gasperau migration (along with other species) is ongoing and therefore the closure of the gates has resulted in large numbers of fish approaching the Aboiteau but not able to pass upstream. Many of these fish end up stranded at low tide in isolated pools or in adjacent salt marsh areas and end up succumbing to low water/oxygen and dying.
- With the significant tide range, large area and turbid waters it is impossible to determine exact numbers as they are washed back out with the tide, consumed by predators or remain in the mud downstream.
- The closure also stranded fish upstream that are not able to migrate back into the estuary downstream other than short periods of time when the gates are open to spill freshwater to prevent upstream flooding.

This is a very short summary of the situation. Please let me know if you require more detail.

Cheers,