



Fisheries and Oceans
Canada

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Canadian
Coast Guard

Garde côtière
canadienne

Commissioner

Commissaire

JUL 26 2017

Mr. Jim Abram
Electoral Area Director
Discovery Islands-Mainland Inlets
Strathcona Regional District
<jimabram@xplornet.ca>

Dear Mr. Abram:

Thank you for your correspondence of February 18, 2017, addressed to the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, regarding the Pacific North Coast Integrated Management Area (PNCIMA) plan and lighthouse staffing. I have been asked to respond on the Minister's behalf, and I regret the delay.

As you are aware through your involvement on the Integrated Oceans Advisory Committee, the PNCIMA plan sets out a broad ecosystem-based management (EBM) framework for human activities on the Pacific North Coast. Strategy 2.6.3 of the EBM framework speaks to maintaining and enhancing navigational aids, communications systems, and infrastructure. Specific actions for implementation of the broader framework have not yet been developed and will be identified on a case-by-case basis through a broader implementation work plan for PNCIMA.

Regarding your specific comments on lighthouse staffing, the Government of Canada recognizes the significance of lighthouses for the coastal communities they serve and the important role the Canadian Coast Guard plays in keeping mariners safe. There has been no announcement to remove staff from any west coast lighthouses, nor is there any plan to do so as long as the minimal required safety standards for our employees are met.

Thank you for writing.

Yours sincerely,

Jeffery Hutchinson
Commissioner
Canadian Coast Guard