



FEB 27 2013

Jules Blais, Ph.D.
President
Society of Canadian Limnologists
< Jules.Blais@uottawa.ca >

Dear Dr. Blais:

Thank you for your further correspondence of January 8, 2013, concerning the Experimental Lakes Area (ELA).

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) has reviewed its operations and as such, the Department has determined that the freshwater research conducted at other departmental facilities across Canada will more than adequately meet the research needs of the Department to inform decisions on fisheries management and habitat management.

DFO believes universities and non-government research facilities are better suited to conduct the type of research that has been done at the ELA, and the Department is working to transfer operations to an organization that is better positioned to do studies based on fundamental ecosystem manipulation.

Please be assured that DFO is working diligently to find another operator for the facility so that this important work can continue by another party better suited for this type of research.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Keith Ashfield