

## Panel on GE Fish

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# Federal Regulatory Departments

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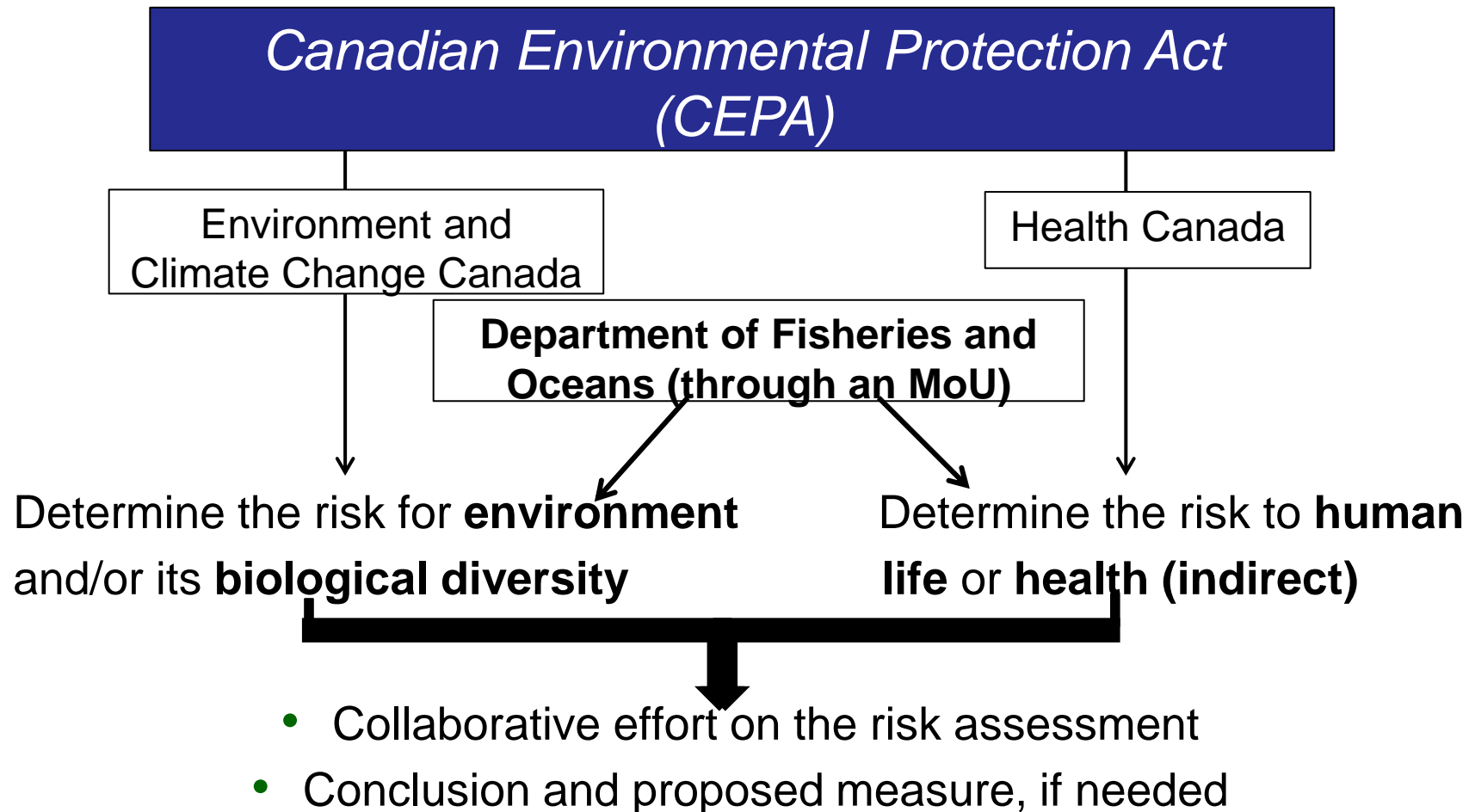
- Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) (CEPA)
- Health Canada (HC) (both CEPA and F&DA)
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO)
- Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) (Feeds, Aquatic Animal Health, Fish Inspection)

# *Canadian Environmental Protection Act – related to GE fish*

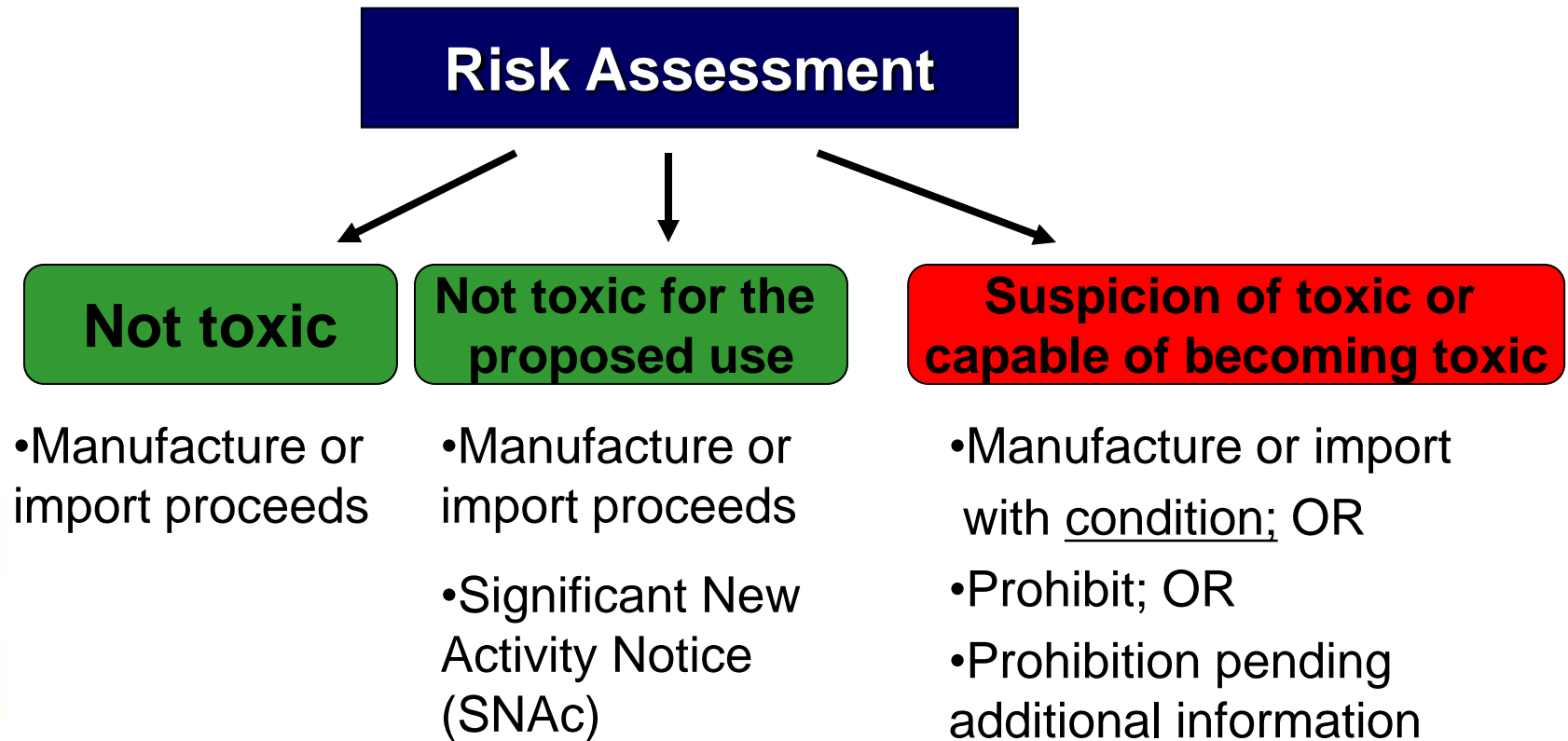
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- Part 6 of CEPA requires that all new living organisms (including GMOs) be notified and assessed for potential risks to the environment and human health prior to import or manufacture in Canada;
- New Substances Notification Regulations (Organisms) [NSNR(O)] prescribe the information that must be provided **prior** to the proposed import into or manufacture in Canada;
- Administered by ECCC but both ECCC and HC jointly conduct risk assessments;
- Memorandum of Understanding (MoU):
  - DFO conducts risks assessment and recommends any risk management to ECCC;
  - ECCC retains overall responsibility for regulatory decision-making and enforcement.

# Authority Under the Act – GE fish



# Potential outcomes after Risk Assessment



- Toxic defined in s. 64 of CEPA
- Not a permitting system [organisms assessed not toxic may be eligible for addition to the Domestic Substances List (DSL)]
- No labeling required unless part of a condition

# GE Salmon – CEPA Assessment

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- Assessment of commercial production of eyed-eggs for export and containment of all life-stages at PEI facility;
- Determination of not toxic for the proposed use; SNAC issued.
- Science Response document available at:  
[http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/csas-sccs/Publications/ScR-RS/2013/2013\\_023-eng.html](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/csas-sccs/Publications/ScR-RS/2013/2013_023-eng.html)
- Significant New Activity Notice available at:  
<http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2013/2013-11-23/pdf/g1-14747.pdf>

# GE Salmon – Novel Foods Assessment

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- Health Canada assessment conducted according to the Codex Alimentarius *Guideline for the Conduct of Food Safety of Foods Derived from Recombinant-DNA Animals*;
- Assessment determined no objection to the food use;
- No specific challenges identified during assessment;
- *Technical summary available at:*

<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/gmf-agm/appro/aquadvantage-salmon-saumon-decision-eng.php>

# GE Salmon – Novel Feeds Assessment

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- Conducted by the Animal Feed Division of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency;
- Assessment determined that feed ingredients derived from the GE salmon do not present livestock feed safety or nutrition concerns;
- No specific challenges identified during the assessment;
- Decision document available at:

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/plants/plants-with-novel-traits/approved-under-review/decision-documents/dd2016-117/eng/1463076782568/1463076783145>



# Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food (SCAAF)

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- May 2016: Request made to examine the legal and regulatory framework around GM animals and their increasing availability for human consumption;
- 4 public hearings held in September and October 2016;
- Committee heard from representatives of the agriculture and agri-food sector, regulatory authorities and civil society;
- December 2016: SCAAF Report on Genetically Modified Animals for Human Consumption;
- Report available at:

<http://www.ourcommons.ca/DocumentViewer/en/42-1/AGRI/report-4>

# SCAAF Recommendations

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- The Committee recommends that the government provide greater transparency in the regulatory system that evaluates genetically modified animals intended for human consumption.
- The Committee recommends that the government provide support for independent research into the health, environmental and other effects of new genetic modification technologies (including those to produce genetically modified animals).
- The Committee recommends that the government support the mandatory labelling system only for issues of food health and safety.
- The Committee recommends that the government work with industry to establish tools to provide traceability for genetically modified animals.

# For more information:

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**New Substances Program Web address:**

<https://www.ec.gc.ca/subsnouvelles-newsups/default.asp?lang=En&n=AB189605-1>

**HC-Novel Foods Web address :**

<http://www.novelfoods.gc.ca>

**CFIA - Feed Web address:**

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/anima/feebet/feebete.shtml>

