



King Harald V
The Royal Palace
Drammensveien 1
N-0010
Oslo
Norway

29th January 2010

Your Royal Highness,

Protecting wild salmon from open net cage salmon farms

Further to our previous letters of August 2009ⁱ and December 2006ⁱⁱ, we repeat our appeal to Your Royal Highness as the King of Norway to help stop the killing of wild fish by Norwegian-owned open net cage salmon farms. We hope that Your Royal Highness can persuade Norwegian companies to clean up their act, move farms out of the path of migrating wild salmon and introduce closed containment systems to protect wild fish from sea lice, mass escapes and infectious diseases. When our letter was personally delivered in Trondheim, Norway, during the Aqua Nor trade show in Augustⁱⁱⁱ we respectfully asked “Please Help Save Wild Salmon” and this is our heartfelt message to Your Royal Highness once more.



We have already received replies from the Norwegian Fisheries Minister, Scottish Environment Minister, Canadian Prime Minister and the Canadian Fisheries Minister who you met with at the Aqua Nor trade show in Trondheim^{iv} (see Appendix 1). We still look forward to a reply from Your Royal Highness who we know is a passionate wild salmon

fisherman^v and a patron of Friends of the Earth Norway and the Norwegian Association of Hunters and Anglers^{vi}.



During your forthcoming visit to British Columbia, Canada, for next month's XXI Olympic Winter Games we ask that Your Royal Highness takes time to meet with First Nation leaders, scientists, wilderness tourism officials, wild salmon supporters and fishermen (many of whom are signed onto this letter). Hopefully you will have time to explore the beauty of British Columbia's spectacular 'Salmon Forest' whose ecosystem thrives upon Pacific wild salmon^{vii}.



We encourage you to take a trip this Spring to watch in wonder at the killer whales, grizzly bears, bald eagles and the other wildlife which depends upon healthy wild salmon returns.





Please take the time to visit indigenous First Nations communities whose rich culture, traditions and livelihoods have depended upon healthy harvests of wild Pacific salmon – the Coho, Chinook, Sockeye, Pink and Chum – for thousands of years.



And hear First Nations leaders bear witness to the threats posed to wild salmon by Norwegian-owned companies farming Atlantic salmon in open net cages in the pristine waters of the Pacific^{viii}.



You may have read recently in the Canadian and European press about grizzly bears starving in British Columbia as wild salmon stocks collapse^{ix}. The Fraser River, which flows through Vancouver and near many of the Olympic venues, is now in crisis with crashing populations of wild sockeye salmon reported as far away as in Norway^x. A judicial inquiry investigating the causes of the decline (which included aquaculture) was launched in November 2009^{xi} with a report scheduled to be published by B.C. Supreme Court Justice Bruce Cohen in May 2011^{xii}.

We cordially invite you to watch a new short documentary – “Farmed Salmon Exposed: The Global Reach of the Norwegian Salmon Farming Industry”^{xiii} – by Canadian film-maker Damien Gillis. This film has already attracted significant media attention in Norway^{xiv} with

interest from Norwegian consulates around the world^{xv} and screenings in Bergen and Oslo^{xvi} as well as in Vancouver^{xvii}. A 3-minute clip is available via You Tube^{xviii} – and the full 23-minute film which features Your Royal Highness receiving our letter will be available online next month^{xix}.



In Vancouver, where we understand you will be representing Norway at the official opening ceremony for the XXI Olympic Winter Games, the Union of BC Indian Chiefs will be hosting a wild salmon luncheon on 16th February. Your Royal Highness is welcome to come and meet with First Nations leaders, eat wild salmon and watch “Farmed Salmon Exposed” before the Norway vs. Canada hockey game^{xx}. In advance of your trip, another film - “Dear Norway: Help Save Canada’s Wild Salmon” - is also available to watch online^{xxi} and a DVD copy of “Farmed Salmon Exposed” will be delivered to the Norwegian Consulate in Vancouver.



Photo: Heikki Holmas MP and Chief Bob Chamberlin at the Norwegian premiere of “Dear Norway” in Oslo in May^{xxii}

We understand that the Queen of Norway and Your Royal Highness will also be in Whistler during the XXI Olympic Winter Games at ‘Norway House’ where you may be serving waffles and celebrating Norway’s medal victories^{xxiii}. If you had time to meet in Whistler or Vancouver to discuss how Norwegian companies (who control 92% of salmon farms in British Columbia^{xxiv}) are impacting on wild salmon and those communities who depend upon healthy wild salmon stocks it would be much appreciated.

We would value your thoughts in particular on the response to our letter to Your Royal Highness (copied to other officials) from Norway’s then Fisheries Minister Helga Pedersen which included:

“All companies operating fish farms in Canada, including Norwegian owned companies, are oblige (sic) to follow rules and regulations at the place of operation, in this case Canadian federal and provincial regulations and standards. The Norwegian government is confident

that the Canadian federal government, and the provincial government in British Columbia, is regulating and controlling the fish-farming industry in the best possible way to mitigate the environmental risk from fish-farming, taking Canadian national and provincial considerations into account”.

As we detailed in our previous letter^{xxv}, Norwegian companies such as Cermaq (owned by the Norwegian Government) and Marine Harvest do not always follow rules and regulations. Cermaq, for example, is the subject of an ongoing investigation by the OECD following a complaint filed in May by Norges Naturvernforbund and ForUM^{xxvi} and has a dismal record in Canada^{xxvii}. First Nations leaders visiting Norway in May also questioned whether Cermaq was conducting business in British Columbia consistent with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples which the Norwegian Government signed onto in 2007^{xxviii}. And Marine Harvest is involved in ongoing legal action in Canada^{xxix}.



Marinebiolog Alexandra Morton. Foto: TV 2

Even at home in Norway, *Dagbladet* reported this month on various fines for Norwegian salmon farming companies (including Marine Harvest) due to breaches of regulations^{xxx} with a company part-owned by the new Norwegian Fisheries Minister (Lisbeth Berg-Hansen) being investigated by the Norwegian National Authority for Investigation and Prosecution of Economic and Environmental Crime (Okokrim)^{xxxi}.



And we are not confident that the regulations and controls which do exist in Canada, or in Scotland, Ireland and Norway for that matter, are “the best possible way to mitigate the environmental risk from fish-farming”. Some First Nations groups in British Columbia are certainly not confident in the Canadian Government’s regulation and control of the Norwegian-owned salmon farming industry. In a letter to Canada’s Fisheries Minister (who

replied to the letter delivered to Your Royal Highness in August), Chief Bob Chamberlin of the Kwicksutaineuk Ah-Kwa-Mish First Nation (K-AFN) and Chairman of the Musgamagw-Tsawataineuk Tribal Council (MTTC) stated:

“The issues raised in the Pure Salmon Campaign correspondence, both in our original letter to the King of Norway, in which you were copied, and in your response letter, are of the utmost significance and importance to the MTTC membership.....As you should be aware, there is significant evidence that salmon farms continually contribute to the decline of wild salmon stocks. While we recognize that it may not always be clear to what proportion the presence of salmon farms contribute to the decline of wild stocks, there is a clearly documented connection. Given the fact that the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada has a significant level of control over the regulation of salmon farming relative to other factors such as global warming, we simply cannot understand why you would not take a precautionary approach to minimize this risk to wild salmon....Finally, with respect to closed containment research, the studies and research DFO has undertaken to date in this area are very limited. While in Norway did you visit the Preline closed containment farm in the Bergen Region? If you acknowledge that \"there are potential technologies that show promise for improving Atlantic salmon production and for restricting and controlling interactions\", we ask why your Department is not devoting significant resources to implement these”^{xxxii}.



Photo: (from left to right) Gail Shea, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, accompanied by Roseanna Cunningham, Scottish Minister of the Environment, and His Majesty King Harald V of Norway.^{xxxiii}

When Your Royal Highness met with the Canadian Fisheries Minister during the Aqua Nor trade show in Trondheim, Norway, in August^{xxxiv} did you ask her about closed containment technology and other mitigation measures to protect wild salmon from salmon farms?

After full researching this issue we are confident that you will share our concerns for wild salmon and the threats posed by open net cage salmon farming.



The Coastal Alliance for Aquaculture Reform has produced various background reports and scientific briefings which we encourage you to read on the plane over to Canada^{xxxv}. CAAR's 'Wild Salmon Narrows' campaign asks for the immediate removal of five salmon farms – all owned by Norwegian companies (Cermaq, Grieg and Marine Harvest) – to protect wild salmon^{xxxvi}. A recent Think Tank of academic and independent scientists, sponsored by BC's Simon Fraser University, also recommended the emergency closure of farms in the region to protect out-migrating sockeye^{xxxvii}. Information is also available detailing how closed containment technology offers a promising solution to many of the problems caused by open net-cage farming^{xxxviii}.



If you had time to meet, CAAR would like to update you in particular on the operations of Norwegian Government-owned Cermaq whose subsidiary Mainstream Canada controls 24% of all salmon farms in British Columbia^{xxxix}. Speaking before attending the Annual General Meeting of Cermaq and meeting with the Norwegian Government's Department of Ownership (who are the largest shareholders in Cermaq), David Lane of the T Buck Suzuki Environmental Foundation (a member of CAAR) said:

“It's outrageous that the Norwegian government professes to run sustainable state-owned companies, yet their salmon farms in British Columbia are causing serious environmental harm and operate in a manner that would not be allowed in Norway. The Norwegian government must take immediate action to ensure Mainstream Canada [Cermaq] stops harming the B.C. environment and putting B.C. wild salmon runs in jeopardy”^{xi}.



Chief Bob Chamberlin, who you will remember hand-delivered letters to the Norwegian Royal Palace in Oslo in 2006, 2007 and 2008^{xli}, would like to brief you on the class action law suit of the Kwicksutaineuk/Ah-Kwa-Mish First Nation (K-AFN)^{xlii}. The class action law suit – which was filed in February 2009^{xliii} with a certification hearing scheduled for March this year - addresses the impacts of open net-cage salmon farms on wild salmon in the K-AFN Territory of the Broughton Archipelago. The decision to undertake the lawsuit was necessitated by the urgency to stop the loss of the cultural, ecological, and spiritual integrity of the wild salmon habitat and fishing sites^{xliv}.



The general public expects a country such as Norway who signed the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in 2007^{xlv} and who published a white paper on Corporate Social Responsibility Abroad in 2009 to respect the rights of First Nations whose culture depends upon healthy wild salmon populations^{xlvi}. In his letter delivered to the Royal Palace in Oslo in 2006, Chief Bob Chamberlin of the Musgamagw Tsawataineuk Tribal Council wrote to Your Royal Highness^{xlvii}:

“There are a few words from our teachings that define who we are and how we have lived in relation to our environment. These words Miachila xu naxwa, and Heela muta, translated mean: Respect and honour everything, and take only what you need. The extinction of these valuable species will cause irreparable harm to the cultural practices of our people. We extend an invitation to you to visit us in the Broughton Archipelago area of British Columbia Canada to see with your own eyes what we have born witness to for the past decade”.

Chief Chamberlin’s letter has still to be answered. Nor has another letter hand-delivered to the Royal Palace by Eugene Bryant of the Allied Tsimshian Tribes of Lax Kw’alaams in 2006 received a royal reply. This letter addressed to Your Royal Highness and Norwegian Prime Minister, Jens Stoltenberg, was read out by Eugene Bryant during the 38th Parliament of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia^{xlviii}. It included:

“My name is Eugene Bryant and my hereditary name is Algin-whh-de-bas which means Raven the messenger. I have travelled thousands of miles to deliver a message on behalf of my people from the Allied Tsimshian Tribes and other First Nations on the Skeena watershed in northwest British Columbia.



Our people have inhabited the Skeena watershed for thousands of years. We have relied upon wild salmon resources for food, sustenance, and economic purposes. Salmon continues to be a central part of our culture and diet. We are very concerned about the impacts on wild salmon from the fish farms that Pan Fish is proposing to establish near the mouth of the Skeena River.

The Allied Tsimshian Tribes have made the following declaration: We the First Nations of the Skeena River and its approaches proclaimed the waters of our traditional territories, a fish farm free, Wild Salmon only zone. This declaration has also been supported by the other

First Nations of the Skeena – the Wet’suwet’en, the Gitksan, the Gitanyow, and the Lax Kw’aalms Band Council.

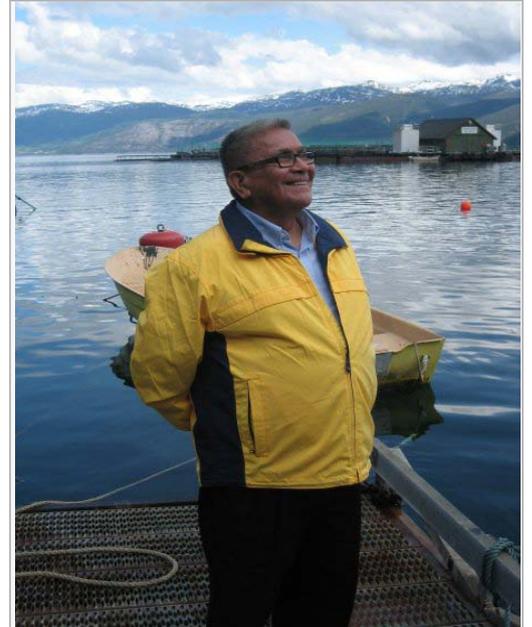
I am bringing this message to you, the King of Norway and Prime Minister of Norway, because the company that wants to build fish farms on the Skeena has its headquarters in your territory”.

The respected Norwegian financial newspaper *Dagens Naringsliv* featured the controversial issue with the headline “Ondt Blod i lakseland” (“Blood Boiling in Salmon Country”) ^{xlix}.



In May last year, a delegation of First Nation chiefs, wilderness tourism, scientists and environmental leaders from Canada made the journey yet again to Norway to testify to the problems of Norwegian companies operating in British Columbia^l. During his visit, which included attending Cermaq’s AGM in Oslo and a visit to Preline’s closed containment farm in Hardangerfjord^{li}, Chief Robert Joseph of the Musgamagw Tsawataineuk Tribal Council, said:

“The demise of wild salmon is tantamount to genocide because it reflects the demise of our culture, way of life and spirituality. Since the advent of salmon farming in our territories we have seen an apocalyptic decline in the state of our wild salmon stocks in the Broughton Archipelago. And because Norway is the world leader in salmon farming and the Norwegian Government is the leading shareholder in Cermaq we are asking for their moral leadership to bring about best practices and to mitigate environmental degradation”^{lii}.



Chief Robert Joseph, Chief Bob Chamberlin, Alexandra Morton and others met with officials at the Norwegian Government's Department of Ownership to reiterate concerns about the operations of Cermaq in particular. The Canadian delegation also met with officials from the Canadian Embassy in Oslo and asked the Canadian Government to help save wild salmon.



The Canadian delegation unfortunately did not have the chance to meet Your Royal Highness in person but visited the Royal Palace and were graciously welcomed inside the Norwegian Parliament (Storting) to meet with Members of Parliament.



Whilst in Canada for the XXI Olympic Winter Games, Your Royal Highness, fellow Norwegian citizens and Norwegian Olympic athletes are cordially invited to attend a rally in Vancouver on 20th February hosted by the Wild Salmon Circle^{liii}.



Visiting Norwegians are very much welcome to stand up for wild salmon shoulder to shoulder with First Nations, fishermen, wilderness tourism leaders and a legion of concerned citizens who value such a precious wild salmon resource^{liv}.





The Wilderness Tourism Association of British Columbia^{lv} also cordially extend an open invitation to Your Royal Highness to visit one of the many wilderness resorts and fishing lodges in the Broughton Archipelago and the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. This invitation extends back to 2007 when Tom Rivest, President of the Commercial Bear Viewing Association of British Columbia, delivered a letter to the Royal Palace in Oslo personally inviting you to come to British Columbia to see with your own eyes the damage caused by sea lice to baby pink wild salmon^{lvi}.



Invitations have also been made to your fellow Norwegian and passionate angler John Fredriksen (as owner of Marine Harvest) and his daughter Cecilie Fredriksen (as a Board of Director of Marine Harvest).

PASSENGER TICKET AND BAGGAGE CHECK		
PURE SALMON CAMPAIGN AIRWAYS		
FREDRIKSEN/JOHN MR	DATE OF ISSUE: MAY 25, 2009	NAME OF PASSENGER FREDRIKSEN/JOHN MR
VALID FOR PSC FLIGHTS ONLY/NO REROUTE		DEPART: OSLO, NORWAY
TRIP PURPOSE: INSPECT SEA LICE INFESTATION AT MARINE HAREST SALMON FARMS		ARRIVE: BROUGHTON ARCHIPELIGO, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA
DEP DATE: OPEN INVITATION	1 217 4851913640 3	
<small>DO NOT MARK OR WRITE IN THE WHITE AREA ABOVE</small>		



[Photo: Cecilie Fredriksen speaking to Shannon Ellis, Alexandra Morton and Bartlett Naylor at the Marine Harvest AGM in Oslo, Norway, in May 2009^{lvii}]

Does Your Royal Highness share Mr Fredriksen’s view that in order to protect wild salmon from sea lice open net cage salmon farms ought to be moved out of the path of migrating wild salmon?^{lviii}



Sea lice is a big issue in British Columbia – as it is in Norway where the situation is described as “out of control”^{lix}. Public opposition to Norwegian-owned salmon farming companies is attracting negative press coverage of ‘rapacious Norwegians’ in the international media^{lx} as well as at home in Norway^{lxi} where messages to Marine Harvest^{lxii} and Cermaq^{lxiii} have been delivered by visiting Canadians. In 2008, the Norwegian media reported on the growing public opposition to Norwegian-owned companies operating in British Columbian waters with the headlines “Fredriksen i laksekrig” (“Fredriksen in Salmon War”)^{lxiv} and “Global Salmon War Against Marine Harvest”^{lxv}.



In February 2009, the Norwegian media featured the issue with the crystal clear message in Norwegian from sea lice scientist Alexandra Morton in the Broughton Archipelago: “Ingen Lus!” (No Lice!)^{lxvi}.



Foto Adopt a fry/ANB Lakselusforsker og oppdrettskritiker Alexandra Morton levner ingen tvil om at det er norske oppdrettselskaper hun demonstrerer mot i British Columbia i Canada.

You may have also watched the Norwegian TV report which featured another film by Damien Gillis: “Collapse of salmon from fish farms - Glendale grizzlies: in the absence of salmon”^{lxvii}. In the TV2 report - “Norge får skylda” (‘Norway Gets Blamed’) - Alexandra Morton is quoted as saying:

“The Norwegian fish farms kill this coastline. They kill wild salmon, which are the lifeblood of the coast. I think the Norwegian people would be embarrassed to know how they are perceived.”



In Canada, *Global TV* has extensively covered the sea lice issue in the Broughton Archipelago^{lxviii}.



We read with increasing concern about the current sea lice crisis in Norway with *Dagens Naringsliv* reporting this month that “lice have crawled up the political agenda and up the inside of the trouser leg of Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg”^{lxix}. The Norwegian Fisheries Minister, Lisbeth Berg-Hansen, clearly has a battle on her hands dealing with the sea lice crisis^{lxx}.



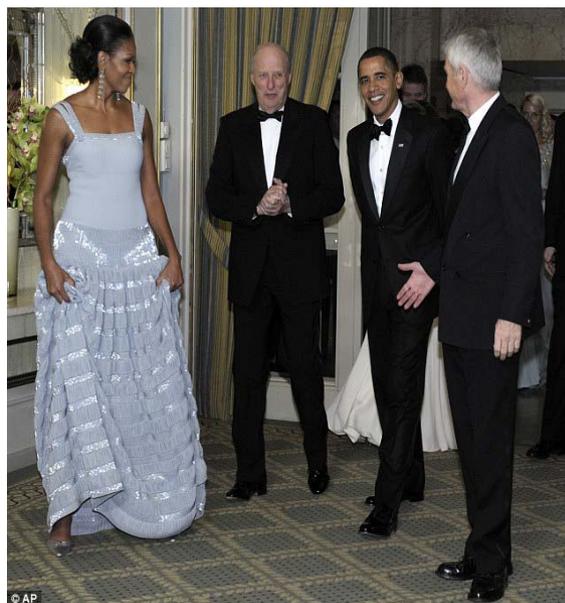
In November, the Norwegian newspaper *VG* also reported under the headline “Eksplisvt lakselus-problem truer oppdrettslaks og villaks” (“Explosive lice problem threatens farmed salmon and wild salmon”) that “the extent of sea lice in fish farms has trebled in the autumn: scientists fear that the industry is in a disaster”. It is alarming to read the Norwegian news that sea lice in Norway have become resistant to many of the toxic chemicals used to combat parasite infestation^{lxxi} and that escaped farmed salmon^{lxxii} have been found infested with sea lice – with 1,000 sea lice reported on a single escaped farmed salmon^{lxxiii}.



The Norwegian Food Safety Authority (Mattilsynet) is increasingly concerned about the sea lice situation^{lxxiv} and this month announced funding for increased sea lice monitoring on wild fish^{lxxv}. The Norwegian government’s Directorate for Nature Management also recently called for a drastic reduction in salmon farming production^{lxxvi}. The Norwegian sea lice crisis prompted Norges Jeger- og Fiskerforbund (The Norwegian Association of Hunters and Anglers), Norsk Lakseelver^{lxxvii} (Norwegian Salmon River Owners) and WWF Norway to launch a campaign to protect wild salmon with a sea lice animation featuring Canada, Ireland, Scotland and Norway^{lxxviii} as well as a poster campaign on the sea lice problem^{lxxix}.



Norway's hard-won international reputation as a 'green and clean' country is now being tarnished by the unsavory practices of the Norwegian salmon farming industry. This week, *Dagbladet* reported on a complaint filed against Norwegian farmed salmon with the US Federal Trade Commission for deceptive advertising^{lxxx}. Last month, the respected Norwegian financial newspaper *Dagens Naringsliv* featured the headline "Barack Obama warned against Norwegian salmon"^{lxxxii} and *NRK* reported how US retailer Target had stopped selling farmed salmon^{lxxxiii} with the headline "Amerikanere vraker norsk laks"^{lxxxiii} ('Americans Reject Norwegian Salmon'). In a letter to the U.S. Ambassador to Norway, President Obama - who you met in Oslo when he collected the Nobel Peace Prize - was "urged to take up the issue of market access for farmed salmon in the U.S. market".



The letter, from Orri Vigfusson of the North Atlantic Salmon Fund, included:

“Norway’s salmon farming policy is increasingly reckless and unsustainable, not just in Norway but in Scotland, Ireland, Chile, Canada and the US. It is creating plagues of sea lice in all these countries and the chemicals used in trying to overcome the damage that is being done raise concern of human health impacts when people eat the fish the farms produce.....Norway has signally failed to perform its duty to the environment. Far from relaxing the present curbs on Norway’s behaviour we would encourage you to make the rules even stronger”^{lxxxiv}.

So serious is the situation that an article in *Dagens Naringsliv* likened the crisis in Norway with the dire situation in Chile^{lxxxv}. And *Environmental Health News* reported this month that “male rats fed fish oil from farmed salmon developed insulin resistance, obesity and related health issues”^{lxxxvi}.



NatalieMaynor/flickr

Male rats fed fish oil from farmed salmon developed insulin resistance, obesity and related health issues

This month the Norwegian Salmon Association issued a “Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Alert”^{lxxxvii} calling for a boycott of Norwegian farmed salmon. In November 2009, WWF Norway issued a warning that they would ‘red-list’ Norwegian farmed salmon due to sea lice, disease and escape problems^{lxxxviii}. And Norges Miljøvernforbund (Green Warriors of Norway) revealed in December that the toxic chemical Teflubenzuron was being used in Norway once again to kill sea lice due to chemical resistance problems^{lxxxix}.



The deteriorating situation has been reported recently in the English-speaking media with articles headed “Lice Alert for Norwegian Salmon” published by *AFP*^{xc}, *The China Post*^{xc1},

The Irish Times^{xcii} and *The Independent (UK)*^{xciii}. *Vital Choices* magazine reported that “Norway's Nature Cops Call for Salmon Farm Cutbacks”^{xciv}. A blog from a Norwegian fisherman reported on the problems with the Norwegian salmon farming sector in articles such as “They Poison Our Fjords”^{xcv} and “The Fjords are Broken”^{xcvi}.

If you visit the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Reserve^{xcvii} during your visit to British Columbia you will be able to ask scientists at the Wild Fish Conservancy and tourist officials at the Clayoquot Wilderness Resort for an update on the sea lice monitoring work around the salmon farms operated by Norwegian Government-owned company Cermaq^{xcviii}. You may have read about Cermaq's operations within the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Reserve^{xcix} in *Dagbladet*^c.



FN-BESKYTTET: Cermaqs oppdrettsvirksomhet i det FN-beskyttede naturreservatet Clayoquot Sound i Britisk Columbia får knallhard kritikk i en ny miljørapport. Foto: Friends of Clayoquot Sound

Kurt Oddekalv, leader of the Green Warriors of Norway, visited the area in 2008 and said:

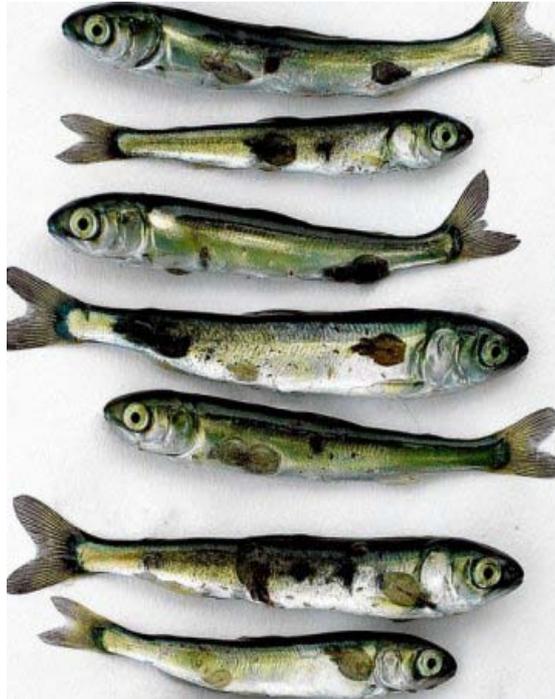
“I'm deeply ashamed as a Norwegian. After damaging our wild salmon, the industrial salmon farmers are fouling the pristine waters of Canada and Chile. Nobody in Norway knows about this, but I will tell them”^{ci}.

The video of his trip – “Norwegian salmon farmers are destroying the wildlife of Canada” - is available to watch online^{cii}.



Lakselusen stammer fra norske oppdrettsanlegg blir det hevdet i filmen. Foto: TV 2

A visit to the Georgia Strait is also recommended – and you could speak to scientists who are investigating whether sea lice infestation from Norwegian-owned salmon farms may be impacting Fraser River Sockeye and other Fraser River stocks^{ciii}. In the heart of the Broughton Archipelago you could visit the Salmon Coast Field Station^{civ} and meet with scientists such as Alexandra Morton^{cv} who has featured in *The New York Times*^{cvi} and the journal *Science*^{cvi}.





Sean Patrick Farrell/The New York Times

LIFE IN ECHO BAY Alexandra Morton thinks salmon farms drove away killer whales, in part by infecting the wild salmon the whales eat with sea lice.

The Broughton Archipelago is also home to Nimmo Bay Resort^{cviii} which famously featured the sea lice issue in an episode of ‘Boston Legal’^{cix} with James Spader and William Shatner^{cx}.



If Your Royal Highness’s schedule is too busy during February, you may wish to return to British Columbia in May when the 8th International Sea Lice Conference – ‘Sea Lice 2010’ – will take place in Victoria^{cxⁱ}. Dr. Tor Einar Horsberg from the Norwegian College of Veterinary Medicine in Oslo is presenting a plenary paper on “Sea lice treatments: effects, side effects and resistance development”^{cxⁱⁱ}. Dr. Horsberg, as you may be aware, has been outspoken in Norway on the increasing problems of sea lice resistance to chemicals^{cxⁱⁱⁱ}.



Nor is Canada the only region where Norwegian-owned companies are experiencing problems. In Ireland, where Marine Harvest control over 50% of production, Salmon Watch filed a complaint last year with the European Commission contending that salmon farms are responsible for the generation of high levels of sea lice infestation in juvenile salmon migrating from rivers to their feeding grounds in the sea^{cxiv}. And in the UK where Norwegian-owned companies control in excess of 80% of salmon farming production, the Salmon and Trout Association (whose patron is Prince Charles) have organized a petition calling on the Scottish Government to move salmon farms away from the estuaries of major rivers^{cxv}.

Finally, all of us signed onto this letter are in our own ways and in our different countries respectfully and peacefully standing up for the wild salmon in the face of the threats posed by Norwegian-owned salmon farming companies.



Global opposition is building with the message crystal clear in any language.



[Alexandra Morton, Chief Bob Chamberlin, Damien Gillis and Shannon Ellis at the Wild Salmon Circle's rally in Vancouver in October 2009^{cxvi}]





You may have read Alexandra Morton’s passionate plea published in the Norwegian newspaper *Bergens Tidende* in May last year which ended with:

“It’s still not too late to stop the collapse of wild salmon and social decay here in western Canada. But to do so, it will take the efforts of concerned citizens working across borders, to make it clear to the Norwegian government that salmon farms must not destroy the wild salmon arteries flowing into the coast of British Columbia. In today’s world such behavior is an act of inexcusable immorality as future generations will need life on earth to survive”^{cxvii}.



And speaking in the film “Farmed Salmon Exposed – the global reach of the Norwegian salmon farming industry”, John Mulcahy of Save the Swilly in Ireland asks:

“What gives them the right to destroy livelihoods in countries far away?”^{cxviii}.



As King of Norway we appeal to Your Royal Highness – as the head of state for a country which controls the majority of the global salmon farming sector – to do everything in your power to help save wild fish from the impacts of open net cage salmon farming. We sincerely hope that Norwegian athletes do Norway and Your Royal Highness, as patron of the Norwegian Olympic Committee and Confederation of Sports^{cxix}, proud in the XXI Olympic Winter Games in Canada^{cxx}.



The Norwegian Ambassador to Canada, Else Berit Eikeland, and one of the torch bearers, Matthew MacDonald. Photo: The Embassy

It is a shame, however, that Norwegian salmon farming companies operating abroad are hurting Norway's international reputation. Far from making Norwegians proud, Cermaq, Grieg and Marine Harvest are disrespecting the views of First Nations communities and operating with contempt for the marine environment and the health of wild salmon.

**Net-cage salmon farming is harming wild salmon
and everything that depends on them...**



**Don't eat farmed salmon until the
industry cleans up its act**



92% of salmon farms in British Columbia are owned by three Norwegian corporations...

SAY NO to Norway's uncontained salmon farms in BC!

The Coastal Alliance for Aquaculture Reform (CAAR) is a coalition of five leading environmental organizations working to transition the open net-cage salmon farming industry to more sustainable production methods.



Support the call for closed
containment aquaculture in
BC, visit:

www.bettersalmon.org

BC

We hope that Your Royal Highness will find the time during your stay in Canada to investigate how Norwegian-owned companies are killing wild salmon and how Norwegians can be a part of solving the problem.



Will Your Royal Highness join the over 170 fishermen, concerned citizens, scientists, wilderness tourism operators, First Nations, politicians and wild salmon advocates signed onto this letter from Canada, United States of America, Ireland, Scotland, Germany, Chile, Switzerland and at home in Norway in standing up for wild salmon?



Yours sincerely,

Chief Bob Chamberlin, Kwicksutaineuk Ah-kwa-mish First Nation and Chairman of the Musgamagw-Tsawataineuk Tribal Council, Canada

Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, President, Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs, Canada

Grand Chief William Charlie, Vice-President, Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs, Canada

Alexandra Morton, Pacific Coast Wild Salmon Society, Canada

David Suzuki, Co-Founder of the David Suzuki Foundation, Canada

David Lane, Executive Director, T Buck Suzuki Environmental Foundation, Canada

Damien Gillis, Canadian documentary filmmaker, Canada

Rick Glumac, Director, Wild Salmon Circle, Canada

Brian Gunn, President, Wilderness Tourism Association of British Columbia, Canada

Evan Loveless, Executive Director, Wilderness Tourism Association of British Columbia, Canada

Gerald Amos, Chairperson, Friends of Wild Salmon, Canada

Terry Slack, Director Fraser River Coalition and Fraser River Sturgeon Conservation Society, Canada

Darren Blaney, Homalco First Nation, Canada

Geoff Meggs, Councillor, City of Vancouver, Canada

Valerie Langer, Friends of Clayoquot Sound, Canada

Rafe Mair, Common Sense Canadian (<http://www.thecanadian.org/>), Canada

John Cummins, M.P., Delta - Richmond East, BC, Canada

Shannon Ellis, Bella Coola Grizzly Tours, Canada

Steve Lawson, National Coordinator, First Nations Environmental Network, Canada

Des Nobels, retired Commercial salmon fisherman from Prince Rupert, BC, Canada

Michael Price, Conservation Biologist, Raincoast Conservation Foundation, Canada

Terry Anderson, Canadian Wild Salmon Alliance Society, Canada

Luanne Roth, Marine Director of the Prince Rupert Environmental Society, Canada

Craig Orr, Executive Director of the Watershed Watch Salmon Society, Canada

Stan Proboszcz, Fish Biologist, Watershed Watch Salmon Society, Canada

Ruby Berry, Salmon Aquaculture Program Coordinator, Georgia Strait Alliance, Canada

Michelle Young, Salmon Aquaculture Campaigner, Georgia Strait Alliance, Canada

Corey Peet, David Suzuki Foundation, Canada

Jay Ritchlin, Director, Marine and Freshwater Conservation, David Suzuki Foundation, Canada

Lawrence Dill, Professor Emeritus, Simon Fraser University, Canada

Catherine Stewart, Salmon Farming Campaign Manager, Living Oceans, Canada

Shauna Mackinnon, Markets Campaign Coordinator, Living Oceans, Canada

David Fields, Living Oceans, Canada

Kim Petersen, co-editor of Dissident Voice, Canada

Susanne Hare, Tofino citizen, Canada

Mat Lawson, B.C. citizen, Canada

Misty Lawson, B.C. citizen, Canada

Quoashinis Lawson, B.C. citizen, Canada

Oren Lawson, B.C. citizen, Canada

Amelia Orr, Office Coordinator, Friends of Clayoquot Sound, Canada

Eric Joseph, Tsawataineuk First Nation, Canada

Robert Mountain, Local Coordinator, Musgamagw-Tsawataineuk Tribal Council, Canada

Ron MacDonald, Executive Director, Canadian Sablefish Association, Canada

Chris Acheson, President, Canadian Sablefish Association, Canada

Bob Fraumeni, Vice-President, Canadian Sablefish Association, Canada

Brian Kohn, Secretary Treasurer, Canadian Sablefish Association, Canada

Twyla Roscovich, documentary filmmaker (www.CallingfromtheCoast.com), Canada

Tyee Bridge, Wild Salmon Circle, Canada

Scott Rogers, wild salmon researcher, Canada

Bob Fearn, fisherman, Canada

Paul Kershaw, Fraser River (Area E) Gillnet Rep for the Canadian Salmon Advisory Board, Canada

Jeff Vermillion, President Sweetwater Travel Company, BC Angling Guide, Canada

Eric Wickham, Canadian Sablefish Association, Canada

Anissa Reed, Our Global Ocean, Canada

Steve Strand, UCLA Life Science, Canada

Patricia Strand, Marine Educator, Canada

Jeffrey Jones, Barrister & Solicitor, BC, Canada

John Dawson, Early Spring Fishing Ltd, Canada

Ian McAllister, Pacific Wild, Canada

Steve Snyder, fisherman, Canada

Granville Airton, wild salmon advocate and concerned citizen, Canada

Derek Spragg, Wild Salmon Circle, Canada

Ivan Doumenc, B.C. citizen, Canada

Michelle Nickerson, Director & Swimmer of The Ripple Effect - Fundraiser and Relay Swim for Pacific Salmon, Canada

Kate Pinsonneault, Broughton Archipelago Stewardship Society

Graham Girard, Wild Salmon Circle, Canada

Jill Schroder, concerned citizen, Canada

Nicole Mackay, Mackay Whale Watching, Canada

Donna Mackay, Mackay Whale Watching, Canada

Bill Mackay, Mackay Whale Watching, Canada

David Loewen, Salmon Guy, Canada

Renee Mikaloff, friend of wild salmon, Canada

Lynn Hunter, Councillor, City of Victoria, Canada

Dane Chauvel, Organic Ocean Seafood Inc., Canada

Kari Dehli, University Professor, Toronto, Canada

Peter Christian Holt, Public Health Worker, Toronto, Canada

A B Hansen, Journalist, Canada

Sonya McCarthy, Wild Salmon Advocate, Whistler, Canada

Melany Mjolsness, Natural Health Therapist, Nelson BC, Canada

Ana Santos, Squamish Streamkeepers, Squamish BC, Canada

Roger Barrett, Ecologist, Lillooet, BC, Canada

Inka Milewski, Science Advisor and Marine Biologist, Conservation Council of New Brunswick, Canada

Donna Passmore, Environment & Food Security Campaigner, Canada

Anne Murray, naturalist, Nature Guides, BC, Canada

Dan Lewis, Rainforest Kayak Adventures, Clayoquot Sound, Canada

Bonny Glambeck, Rainforest Kayak Adventures, Clayoquot Sound, Canada

Vicky Husband, Order of Canada, BC, Canada

Sophika Kostyniuk, Environmentalist, Canada

Jeff Mikus, commercial fisherman, Canada

Suzanne Lubzinski Mikus, teacher, Canada

Will Soltau, Concerned Citizen, Sointula, Canada

Karen Wilson, Commercial Fisherman, BC, Canada

Warren Rudd, Videographer, Tofino, Canada

Carole Perrault, Administrator, Musgamagw Tsawtaineuk Tribal Council, Canada

Bronwen Barnett, Communications Coordinator, Coastal Alliance for Aquaculture Reform, Canada

Tom Rivest, Great Bear Nature Tours, BC, Canada

Maria Morlin, Wild Salmon Circle, Vancouver, Canada

Celia Nord, Archaeologist, Canada

Geoff Gilliard, Communications Manager, Living Oceans Society, Canada

Vicki Huntington, MLA, Delta South, BC, Canada

Vegard Heggem, wild salmon conservationist, Norway

Geir Kjensmo, Chairman of the Norwegian Salmon Association, Norway

Kurt Oddekalv, President, Norges Miljøvernforbund (Green Warriors of Norway), Norway

Sondre Båtstrand, Spokesperson for the Norwegian Green Party, Norway

Frode Strønen, Marine Spokesperson for the Norwegian Green Party, Norway

Tor Mikalsen, leader of the Norwegian Green Party in Troms, Norway

Niels Chr. Geelmuyden, author and journalist, Norway

Bernt Elve Gjelsten, Riverkeeper/Riverpolice, Norway

Helge Anonsen, River Owner, Norway

Robert Verkerk, “Redd Villaksen” campaign, Norway

Øyvind Sollie, “Redd Villaksen” campaign, Norway

Liv Mjelde, Professor emerita, Norway

Richard Daly, Aboriginal rights anthropologist, Norway

Jan-Hugo Holten, rådgiver & utreder, Norway

Stein Arnesen, Wilderness Trail, Norway

Arvid Lilleng, fisherman, Norway

Odveig Stavnes, Taftøysundet, Norway (www.stavnesgard.no)

Tormod Vaaland Burkey, Ecologist, Norway

Randy Gunnar Lange, Ecology student, Høyskolen i Telemark, Norway

Anne-Lise Arnesen, Professor, Norway

Fabien Miard, concerned citizen, Norway

Linda May Mellingen, Norway

Marianne Leisner, Permaculture, Sustainable teaching, Tjøme, Norway

Bjørn Johansen, Miljøvernforkjemper, Norway

Magnus E. Marsdal, Researcher, Manifest Analyse, Norway

Rolf Jacobsen, Gaia Architects, Norway

Lenn Roar Svenning, Steinkjer, Norway

Steinar Sørensen, Boikott Oppdrettslaksen, Norway

Nick Jacobsen, Green Warrior, Norway

Hanna E. Marcussen, Spokesperson, the Norwegian Greens, Norway

Bruce Sandison, Scottish Sporting Services, Scotland

Colin Kirkpatrick, Environment Committee Chairman, Orkney Trout Fishing Association, Scotland

Bill Brady, Fly fisher and Grandfather, Whitecraig, Scotland

JJ Russell, Musician, fisherman, environmentalist, Scotland

Brian Fraser, ghillie, Wester Ross, Scotland

Frank Buckley, Society for the Protection of Salmon and Sea Trout, Scotland

Niall Greene, Chair, Salmon Watch Ireland, Ireland

Simon Ashe, Salmon Watch Ireland, Ireland

John Mulcahy, Spokesperson, Save The Swilly, Ireland

Noel Carr, Secretary, Conaidhm na Slat Iascairi Bradan & Breac Geal (Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers), Ireland

Josephine Egan, President, Conaidhm na Slat Iascairi Bradan & Breac Geal (Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers), Ireland

John Carroll, Chairman, Conaidhm na Slat Iascairi Bradan & Breac Geal (Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers), Ireland

Edward Power, Council Representative, Conaidhm na Slat Iascairi Bradan & Breac Geal (Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers), Ireland

Paul Lawton, Council Representative, Conaidhm na Slat Iascairi Bradan & Breac Geal (Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers), Ireland

DJ O'Riordan, Council Representative, Conaidhm na Slat Iascairi Bradan & Breac Geal (Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers), Ireland

Richard Behal, Council Representative, Conaidhm na Slat Iascairi Bradan & Breac Geal (Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers), Ireland

David Magill, Council Representative, Conaidhm na Slat Iascairi Bradan & Breac Geal (Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers), Ireland

Davy Stinson, Council Representative, Conaidhm na Slat Iascairi Bradan & Breac Geal (Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers), Ireland

Brian Hegarty, Council Representative, Conaidhm na Slat Iascairi Bradan & Breac Geal (Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers), Ireland

Ian Guegan, Council Representative, Conaidhm na Slat Iascairi Bradan & Breac Geal (Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers), Ireland

Cristopher Egan, Council Representative, Conaidhm na Slat Iascairi Bradan & Breac Geal (Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers), Ireland

Roy Mortimer, Council Representative, Conaidhm na Slat Iascairi Bradan & Breac Geal (Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers), Ireland

Billy Smyth, Council Representative, Conaidhm na Slat Iascairi Bradan & Breac Geal (Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers), Ireland

Tom Moran, Council Representative, Conaidhm na Slat Iascairi Bradan & Breac Geal (Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers), Ireland

Fred Coffey, Council Representative, Conaidhm na Slat Iascairi Bradan & Breac Geal (Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers), Ireland

Dan Joy, Council Representative, Conaidhm na Slat Iascairi Bradan & Breac Geal (Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers), Ireland

Kevin Hannan, Council Representative, Conaidhm na Slat Iascairi Bradan & Breac Geal (Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers), Ireland

Paddy Guerin, Council Representative, Conaidhm na Slat Iascairi Bradan & Breac Geal (Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers), Ireland

Michael O’Keefe, Council Representative, Conaidhm na Slat Iascairi Bradan & Breac Geal (Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers), Ireland

Donal O’Doherty, Council Representative, Conaidhm na Slat Iascairi Bradan & Breac Geal (Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers), Ireland

John Reidy, Council Representative, Conaidhm na Slat Iascairi Bradan & Breac Geal (Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers), Ireland

Pat O’Flaherty, Council Representative, Conaidhm na Slat Iascairi Bradan & Breac Geal (Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers), Ireland

Dr. Roderick O’Sullivan, Dental Surgeon, England

Angelika Hanko, Arbeitskreis noerdliche Urwaelder, Germany

Philipp Kuechler, Koordinationszentrum Natur und Umwelt, Germany

Dr. Wolfram Heise, CEO, The JAF Foundation, Switzerland

Douglas Tompkins, Philanthropist, President of The Conservation Land Trust and Vice President of Fundación Pumalín, Chile

Hernan Mladinic, Executive Director, Pumalin Project & Park, Chile

Kurt Beardslee, Executive Director, Wild Fish Conservancy, USA

Bill Bakke, Executive Director, Native Fish Society, United States of America

Paul Molyneux, author of ‘Swimming in Circles: Aquaculture and the End of Wild Oceans’, USA

Regina Grabrovac, Parent, farmer and local foods systems supporter, USA

Dwayne Shaw, Atlantic salmon biologist, Maine, USA

Jacob van de Sande, Atlantic salmon biologist, Maine, USA

Kristin Hoelting, School of Marine Affairs Masters Candidate, University of Washington and 2007-2008 Norway Fulbright recipient, USA

Anne Mosness, Go Wild Campaign, United States of America

Neil Frazer, Professor, University of Hawaii at Manoa, United States of America

Dr. Claudette Bethune, Senior scientist, USA

Jim Crawford, outdoor writer, USA

Paul Watson, Captain, Sea Shepherd, USA

Bartlett Naylor, Capital Strategies Consulting Inc., USA

Don Staniford, Global Coordinator, The Pure Salmon Campaign: www.puresalmon.org



Overrakte: Don Staniford fra «Ren laks-kampanjen» fikk under åpningen av Aqua Nor-messen overrakt Kong Harald et brev hvor han oppfordres til å stoppe ødeleggelsen av kanadisk villaks. Til høyre: styreleder Peter Gullestad i Nor-Fishing-stiftelsen. Foto: TERJE VISNES^{cxxi}

Cc:

Her Majesty The Queen

His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh

His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales

Crown Prince Haakon of Norway

Jens Stoltenberg, Prime Minister of Norway

Jonas Gahr Støre, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway

Erik Solheim, Minister of the Environment and International Development of Norway

Trond Giske, Minister of Trade and Industry of Norway

Heidi Sørensen, State Secretary, Ministry of Environment of Norway

Lisbeth Berg-Hansen, Fisheries Minister of Norway

Helga Pedersen, former Fisheries Minister of Norway

Stephen Harper, Prime Minister of Canada

Gail Shea, Fisheries Minister of Canada

Gordon Campbell, Premier of British Columbia

Trevor Swerdfager, Director General, Aquaculture Management, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Jillian Stirk, Canada's Ambassador to Norway

The Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Canada's Governor General to Norway

Alex Salmond, First Minister of Scotland

Roseanna Cunningham, Minister of the Environment for Scotland

Heikki Holmås, Member of the Norwegian Parliament

Ola Borten Moe, Member of the Norwegian Parliament

Peter Gitmark, Member of the Norwegian Parliament

Hallgeir Langeland, Member of the Norwegian Parliament

Steinar Gullvåg, Member of the Norwegian Parliament

Petter J. Drefvelin, Directorate General of the Department of Sami and Minority Affairs

Johan Mikkel Sara, Sámediggi (The Sámi Parliament)

Gunhild Ørstavik, ForUM

Atle Høie, Fellesforbundet

Roar Flåthen, Landsorganisasjonen i Norge

Jan Thomas Odegard, General Secretary, Norges Naturvernforbund

Espen Farstad, Norges Jeger- og Fiskerforbund

Janne Sollie, Direktoratet for naturforvaltning

Torfinn Evensen, Norske Lakseelver

Rasmus Hansson, WWF Norges

Norges Idrettsforbund og Olympiske og Paralympiske Komité and all Norwegian Olympians

Norwegian Church Abroad (Sjømannskirken)

Her Excellency Else Berit Eikeland, Norwegian Ambassador to Canada

Royal Norwegian Embassy in Canada

Appendix 1: Replies to the letter dated 14th August 2009 to King Harald V of Norway:
http://www.puresalmon.org/pdfs/king_norway_letter.pdf

- **Reply from the Norwegian Fisheries Minister:**

From: [Postmottak FKD](#)

Sent: Monday, September 21, 2009 2:18 PM

To: [Don Staniford](#)

Subject: SV: Letter to King Harald: "Protecting wild salmon from open net cage salmon farms"

Sir/madam

Thank you for your e-mail to Minister Helga Pedersen, who has asked me to answer on her behalf.

We acknowledge your concern for the environment and the declining stocks of wild salmon, and we believe that most Canadian fish-farmers share your concern. All companies operating fish farms in Canada, including Norwegian owned companies, are obliged to follow rules and regulations at the place of operation, in this case Canadian federal and provincial regulations and standards. The Norwegian government is confident that the Canadian federal government, and the provincial government in British Columbia, is regulating and controlling the fish-farming industry in the best possible way to mitigate the environmental risk from fish-farming, taking Canadian national and provincial considerations into account.

Regards

Yngve Torgersen

Deputy Director General

- **Reply from the Canadian Fisheries Minister:**

From: [XNCR, Min](#)
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2009 8:30 PM
To: dstaniford@puresalmon.org
Subject: Reply from Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Don Staniford
<dstaniford@puresalmon.org>

Dear Don Staniford:

I understand your concerns, and appreciate the opportunity to assure you that one of the highest priorities of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) in Pacific Region is the conservation of Pacific salmon stocks.

I will provide some broader context on these issues, and outline specific actions the Department is taking to protect and conserve our wild salmon.

The coastwide scope of the decline that has occurred across all Pacific salmon species suggests that this decline is associated with much larger ecological events than localized salmon farming. These events include climate change and changes in ocean productivity along our West Coast.

In addition to recognizing the impact of global changes, DFO also understands potential impacts of local conditions.

The Department supports the development of sustainable aquaculture within the context of conserving and rebuilding our wild Pacific salmon. DFO ensures that all aquaculture operations are subject to rigorous environmental standards under a number of statutes and regulations, including the Fisheries Act and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, to ensure our marine ecosystems are not compromised.

In addition, Canada's Policy for the Conservation of Wild Pacific Salmon, which is the basis for fishery management plans, sets out a process for the protection, conservation and rebuilding of wild salmon and their marine and freshwater ecosystems.

The Department is committed to continually improving the management of aquaculture based on the best available science.

Regarding your concerns about approvals for aquaculture operations, Mr. Justice Hinkson's recent decision in Alexandra Morton et al v. the A.G. of British Columbia and Marine Harvest Canada states that, until February 2010, the Province of British Columbia will continue in its current role managing aquaculture within the province. The Department is giving the implications of the decision full consideration, including discussions with the Province of British Columbia and broad-based consultations.

With regard to sea lice, DFO recognizes that a heavy sea lice burden can impact the survivability of individual pink salmon smolts. The Department has taken significant action through sea lice research, including monitoring juvenile pink and chum salmon for sea lice in the Broughton Archipelago and conducting ocean circulation studies in that area.

The ongoing analysis of this research aids DFO in developing effective management measures and options to minimize risk of farm-origin sea lice. More recently, the industry has also developed coordinated management in the Broughton Archipelago to remove fish from pens on these routes in advance of and during juvenile migration, as well as early treatment prior to juvenile outmigration.

DFO has also studied closed-containment technologies. The Department has supported research into the development of innovative technologies that enhance the efficiency of production systems while reducing impacts to the environment.

A 2008 workshop on closed containment held by the Canadian Science Advisory Secretariat highlighted that while there are no closed, confined systems currently being used exclusively for Atlantic salmon, there are potential technologies that show promise for improving Atlantic salmon production and for restricting and controlling interactions. The next steps will be to use the knowledge contained in the technical reviews in conjunction with a socio-economic analysis that is underway to help inform potential development of pilot projects in the future.

DFO's Science Branch has worked closely with the industry on several in-water "bag" systems (an initial form of closed containment) to reduce risks of sea lice transmission. A modelling system has been developed to test the economic and biological feasibility of such systems, while considering such variables as current conditions, temperature, siting, etc. The model would allow industries and aquaculture regulators to make informed decisions about the efficacy of containment systems.

Important questions remain unanswered regarding the potential environmental implications of commercial-scale salmon production in closed-containment systems, such as energy demands. Further scientific research is necessary before closed-containment fish farming becomes a practical and realistic alternative.

Thank you for taking the time to write to me with your concerns. Please be assured that the Department will continue to work to conserve and protect salmon stocks for current and future generations.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

Gail Shea, P.C., M.P.

Ministerial Correspondence Control Unit
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200 Kent St. Ottawa, ON K1A 0E6 | 200, rue Kent Ottawa, ON K1A 0E6

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Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

- 1 -

- 2 -

- Reply from the Canadian Prime Minister:

From: "Prime Minister/Premier ministre" <pm@pm.gc.ca>
Sent: Friday, August 21, 2009 2:38 PM
To: "Don Staniford" <dstaniford@puresalmon.org>
Subject: Office of the Prime Minister / Cabinet du Premier ministre

Dear Mr. Staniford:

On behalf of the Right Honourable Stephen Harper, I would like to acknowledge receipt of your email, which provided a copy of the Pure Salmon Campaign's letter to His Royal Highness, King Harald V of Norway, regarding open cage salmon farming in British Columbia.

Thank you for providing this material to the Prime Minister. Your courtesy in bringing this information to his attention is appreciated.

P. Monteith

Executive Correspondence Officer for the Prime Minister's Office

Agent de correspondance de la haute direction pour le Cabinet du Premier ministre

ⁱ http://www.puresalmon.org/pr_17_august_2009.html

ⁱⁱ Letter dated 15th December 2006 – available upon request

ⁱⁱⁱ http://www.nrk.no/nyheter/distrikt/nrk_trondelag/1.6736705

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<http://www.pacificfreepress.com/news/1/4556-canadas-fisheries-and-oceans-head-in-norway-ghere-to-support-our-aquaculture-industryq.html>

^{iv} <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/media/npress-communique/2009/hq-ac-0827-eng.htm>

^v <http://www.aftenposten.no/english/local/article1392806.ece>

^{vi} http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harald_V_of_Norway

^{vii} <http://mwigle.zenfolio.com/p1052286371>

^{viii} <http://www.ubcic.bc.ca/Resources/fishfarmpaper.htm>

http://www.ubcic.bc.ca/print/News_Releases/UBCICNews08180902.htm

^{ix} <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2009/sep/20/grizzly-bears-starve-canada> and
<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/british-columbia/grizzlies-starve-as-salmon-disappear/article1279874/>

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