

\$camon \$cotland, 29 January 2024

## Mowi vs Staniford Heads to Sheriff Appeal Court in Edinburgh

- Mowi, Norskott Havbruk (Scottish Sea Farms) & Bakkafrøst seeking to stop surveillance
- “These cases are a threat to the rights we all have to freedom of expression and to navigate on the open sea” says retired lawyer Ewan Kennedy
- Crowd Justice launched to defend three SLAPPs from Norwegian/Faroese giants
- Appeal hearing at Parliament House on Thursday (1 February) from 10am

Award-winning campaigner Don Staniford - [dubbed the ‘Kayak Vigilante’ by The Times](#) and [featured in Netflix’s new documentary ‘You Are What You Eat’](#) - is fighting three Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPPs) waged in the Scottish courts by the Norwegian/Faroese-owned salmon farming giants Mowi, Norskott Havbruk (Scottish Sea Farms) and Bakkafrøst. The [Sheriff Appeal Court in Edinburgh on Thursday \(1 February\)](#) is the venue for Mowi vs Staniford with lawsuits filed by Scottish Sea Farms and Bakkafrøst sisted (a stay or suspension of legal proceedings) until after the outcome of [Mowi’s SLAPP](#).



## SHERIFF APPEAL COURT – CIVIL

**1 February 2024**

**Parliament House, Edinburgh, Court Room 5**

**1. Appeal Hearing  
at 10:00am**

**(SP Pyle, SP Ross, AS McCartney)**

**OBN-A20-21**

**Mowi Scotland Limited  
*Aberdein Considine and Company***

**-v- Don Staniford (A)  
*R & R Urquhart LLP***

“These cases are a threat to the rights we all have to freedom of expression and to navigate on the open sea,” said [retired lawyer Ewan Kennedy](#) who has closely followed Staniford’s case. “It’s essential that the salmon farming industry should not succeed in preventing the public from finding out what’s going on in our waters. Combining tenacity with a strong scientific background, Don Staniford has been carrying out work which governmental regulators have signally failed to do, and in the process has exposed countless instances of animal abuse and

pollution. Time and again the video evidence which he has gathered has provided the basis for articles in the mainstream press and on television. Staniford's secret filming is clearly in the public interest."

# MOWI®



Staniford's legal fight is [viewed by The Herald](#) as a battle between 'David and Three Goliaths' whilst Private Eye magazine [described it as the 'Kayak Kibosh'](#).



Earlier this month (21 January), Staniford [launched a Crowd Justice campaign](#) to raise money to defend legal action filed by [Mowi](#) ([Scotland's – and the world's - largest salmon farming company](#) with [€1bn operating profit in 2022](#) controlled by 'Viking Raider' [John Fredriksen](#) who

is worth \$14.1 billion); [Norskott Havbruk](#) (owned by Norway’s SalMar and Leroy Seafood trading in Scotland as [Scottish Sea Farms](#) – the #2 salmon farmer in Scotland despite huge losses in 2023) and [Faroese/Norwegian-owned Bakkafrost Scotland](#) (called [The Scottish Salmon Company](#) until 2022 and dubbed the ‘King of Death’ with huge losses in Scotland).

**crowdjustice**

## Help Expose the Welfare Nightmare of Salmon Farming!

by Don Staniford



22

days to go

£2,345

pledged of £25,000 target from 49 pledges



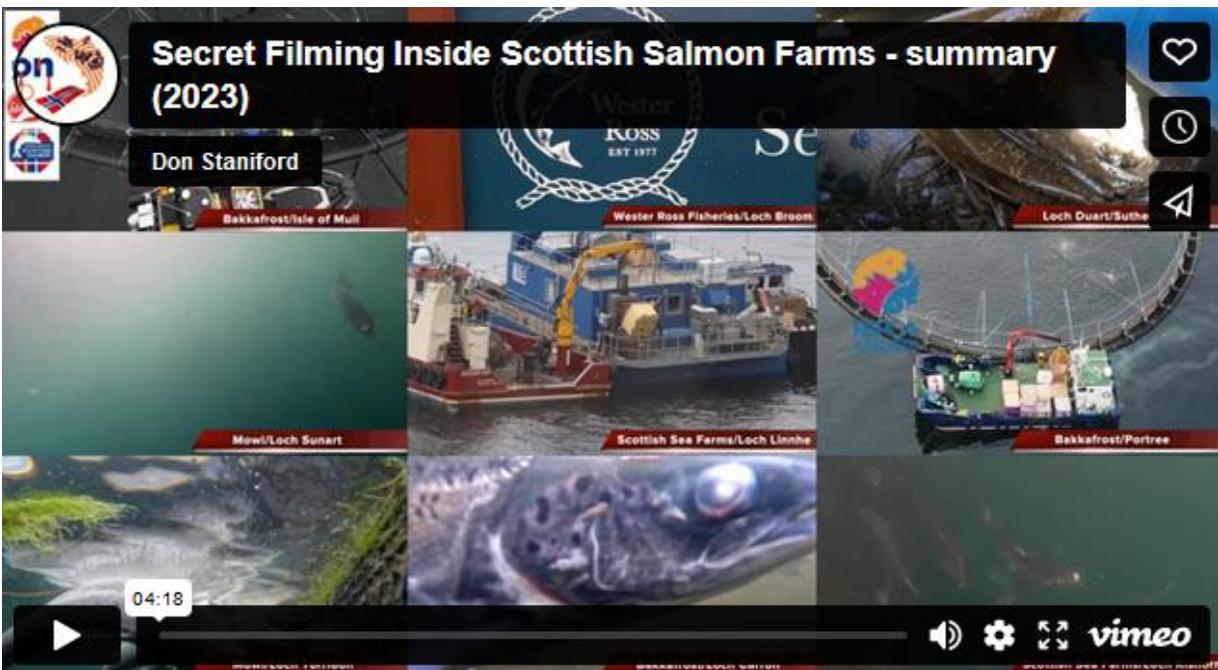
Pledge now

Your card will only be charged if the case meets its target of £25,000 by Feb. 20, 2024, 9 a.m.

Animal welfare Lawyers: R & R Urquhart United Kingdom

**Don Staniford**  
Case Owner

“Please help stop Norwegian-owned companies using the Scottish courts to shut down secret filming at salmon farms across Scotland,” [explains the Crowd Justice fund-raising page](#). “Take a look at the horrors uncovered in 2023 and you can see why salmon farming companies are desperate to stop the public from seeing the ugly truth about Scottish salmon.”



“Faced with a barrage of negative media coverage, Norwegian giants Mowi and Norskott Havbruk (Scottish Sea Farms), and Faroese/Norwegian giant Bakkafrost - the three largest salmon farming companies in Scotland - want to stop all covert filming inside their fish cages as well as surveillance via drones,” [continues the Crowd Justice page](#). “They have all launched legal actions against me seeking to establish exclusion zones and no-fly zones around dozens of their salmon farms in Scottish territorial waters. Mowi, Norskott Havbruk (Scottish Sea Farms) and Bakkafrost are trying to establish a law of trespass in Scotland for the first time and erode age-old public rights of access and navigation on open water.”

“If these foreign-owned companies win permanent interdicts (injunctions) against public access it will severely limit public scrutiny of the welfare and environmental conditions in which salmon are being farmed,” [warns Staniford’s Crowd Justice page](#). “Interdicts against me will establish a precedent for restraining other coastal users such as fishermen, kayakers, swimmers, tourism operators, wind surfers, yacht people and other boat users from crossing parts of the sea. The salmon farming giants are also, chillingly, seeking to prevent anyone I might otherwise help, instruct or encourage from undertaking covert surveillance. If you've watched the film ‘Supersize Me’ or read the books ‘McLibel’ and ‘Buying Silence’ you'll know how massive corporations work so hard to stifle and silence public criticism. I firmly believe that these lawsuits have fundamentally been brought to protect these companies from reputational damage rather than being to ensure the health and safety of their operations.”

In May 2023, the Coalition Against SLAPPs in Europe (CASE) [designated Mowi’s lawsuit against Staniford as a Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation](#) – Scotland’s 5<sup>th</sup> SLAPP.



SLAPPS CAMPAIGNS GALLERY OF SHAME ADVOCACY

## Don Staniford – Price for exposing the dark side of salmon farms

31st May 2023 |



Staniford [spoke about the ongoing legal battle at the UK Anti-SLAPP conference in London in November 2023.](#)



Salmon farming's 'O.G' – as [reported in Paramount's 'The Changemakers which premiered on 1 January](#) – will be speaking at the [Scottish Anti-SLAPP summit in Glasgow on 26 February.](#)

**Scottish Anti-SLAPP Summit**

ENSURING **SCOTLAND** IS NOT LEFT BEHIND IN THE FIGHT AGAINST **SLAPPS**

Organised by:  
**INDEX CENSORSHIP**      University of Glasgow School of Law

Supported by:  
**Justice for Journalists** Foundation for International Investigations of Crime against Media

Location  
**UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW** & online

**MONDAY 26 FEB 2024**  
Starts 08:45

**Contact:**

Don Staniford: 07771 541826 ([salmonfarmingkills@gmail.com](mailto:salmonfarmingkills@gmail.com))

Read more via:

[Crowd Justice campaign launched to fight legal action by Mowi, Bakkafroast & Norskott Havbruk \(Scottish Sea Farms\)!](#)

[Mowi Appeal Hearing Set for 1 February 2024!](#)

[SLAPP Attack: Bakkafroast's Chilling Writ Attempts to Shut Down Surveillance!](#)

[Private Eye: "Kayak kibosh"](#)

[GEO Podcast: "When Staniford is on the move, salmon farmers' alarm bells are ringing"](#)

[The Herald's Vicky Allan: "David vs three Goliaths"](#)

[Norway's E24 reporting on 'Zombie' Bakkafroast's SLAPP!](#)

[Scottish Anti-SLAPP Summit in Glasgow in February 2024 - spotlight on the \\$almafia!](#)

[\\$LAPPING Back the \\$almafia!](#)

[Most Read: "Anti-salmon farm activist suffers new legal blow"](#)

["Bakkafroast goes after anti-salmon farming activist in new legal case" \(Intrafish\)](#)

['Zombie' Bakkafroast SLAPPs Back vs Horror Videos!](#)

[Fighting Back Vs the \\$almafia's \\$LAPPs \(in the spirit of David slaying Goliath\)!](#)

[Anti-SLAPP conference in London - fighting back vs the \\$almafia!](#)

['End Salmon Farming' Tour Kicks Off Despite Legal Threats by Norwegian \\$almafia!](#)

[Legal Threat by Scottish Sea Farms \(Norskott Havbruk\): "your actions....jeopardise the welfare of the fish"](#)

[Mail On Sunday: "Salmon activist who's been banned from going within 50ft of dozens of fish farms"](#)

[The Times: "Kayak vigilante goes undercover to expose salmon farming 'horror'"](#)



[E24: "Mowi går til retten for å stoppe lakseaktivist - Mowi vil stoppe Don Staniford fra å nærme seg oppdrettsanleggene i Skottland"](#)

[Private Eye on Mowi's SLAPP in the face of public access/interest!](#)

[Oban Times: "Fish farming giant denies it wants to gag activist"](#)

["Mowi Scotland denies it wants to 'gag' activist" \(Fish Farmer\)](#)

[SLAPPED by Norwegian Giant Mowi!](#)

["Mowi court battle with notorious salmon farming opponent gets underway in Scotland"](#)

[\(Intrafish\)](#)

[The Oban Times: "Mowi takes anti-salmon farming campaigner to court"](#)

[Pyrrhic Victory or Legal Loss - Mowi's 'asymmetric war' is doomed to failure!](#)

[Mowi Ignores Newton's 'Third Law of Motion' - for every action, there's an equal & opposite reaction!](#)

[Censored: Trade Press Ignore 'Droit de Response' \(Right of Reply\) - until politely asked to do so!](#)

["The People Are Disgusted With Mowi's Legal Action Against Don Staniford - Stop Buying Mowi Salmon!"](#)

[Mowi Actively Courts Trade Press Backlash Vs 'Irrational' & 'Fanatical' Activist!](#)

[STV News: "Salmon farm firm takes legal action against animal welfare campaigner"](#)

[Press statement on lawsuit vs Mowi](#)

[Mowi press release: "Court order sought to protect health and safety"](#)

