

Scottish Salmon Watch, 1 July 2019

'Salmonwatch' Launched in Scotland

- Flotilla protest planned for 1 September
- 21,000+ petition calls for unannounced inspections of salmon farms
- Call for video surveillance & CCTV cameras
- Tip-line for whistleblowers



Salmonwatch 2019 was officially launched this week to showcase the disease-ridden Scottish salmon farming industry. The Summer-long campaign aims to shine a light on the murky world of factory salmon farming in Scotland culminating in a flotilla protest on 1 September.

A 'Citizen Science' project will collect water samples around salmon farms to test for infectious diseases, pathogens and viruses. Members of the public - including kayakers, tourists, whale-watchers, ramblers and fishermen - are being asked to keep an eye out for any disease and welfare problems. A [tip-line for whistleblowers](#) has been set up to gain further intelligence and scratch below the surface of the salmon farming industry.



Don Staniford, [Director of Scottish Salmon Watch](#), said:

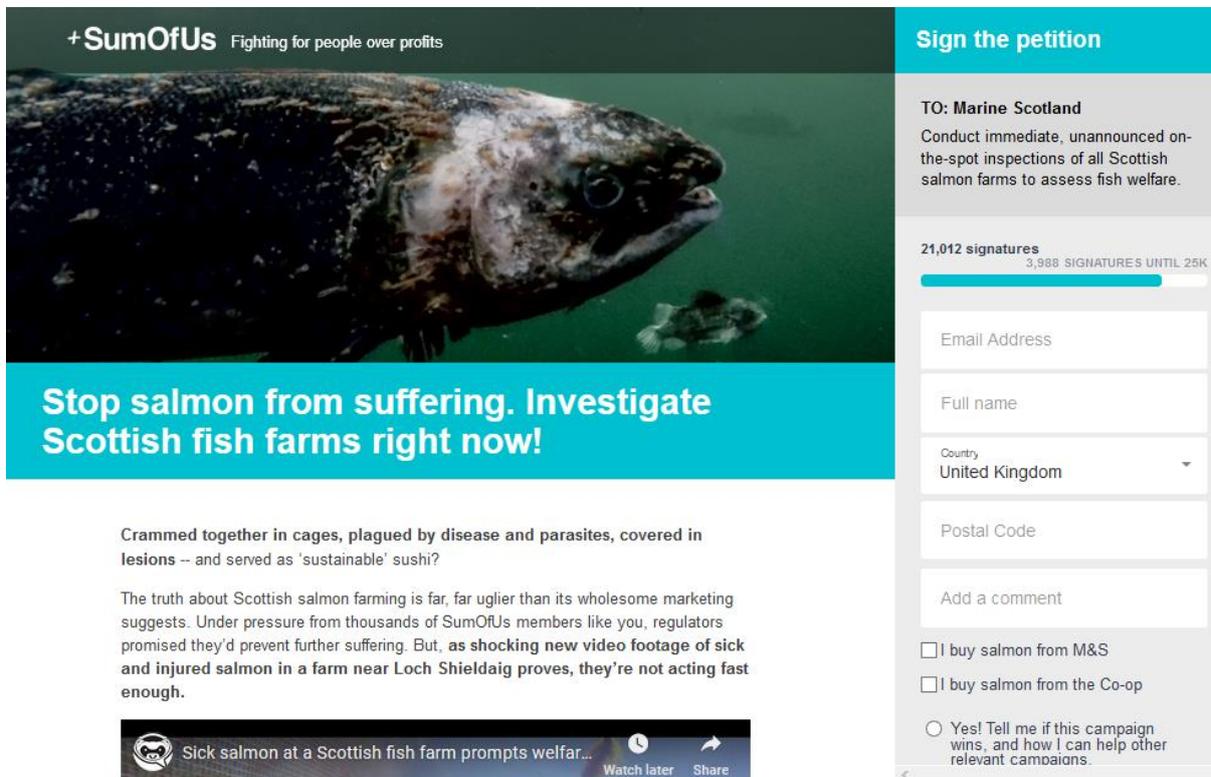
"Salmonwatch 2019 will help plug the Summer gap between Springwatch, Autumnwatch and Winterwatch. But viewers of the shocking video footage already captured - [broadcast by BBC's Panorama](#), [BBC's The One Show](#) and [STV News](#) - should be prepared for a horror-show. If Chris Packham was to bring the BBC cameras to salmon farms in Scotland it would make for uncomfortable viewing and certainly for broadcast after the 9pm watershed. Surveillance of salmon farms including live streaming CCTV, unannounced inspections and sampling of effluents are urgently needed to keep this industry honest. The camera never lies".



Scottish Salmon Watch has [already filmed at several salmon farms in Scotland](#) and is expecting problems to increase as a hot Winter and warming Summer temperatures exacerbate [lice infestations](#), [infectious diseases](#), [mass mortalities](#) and [welfare problems](#).



A [petition launched last week by SumOfUs](#) calling on Marine Scotland to "conduct immediate, unannounced on-the-spot inspections of all Scottish salmon farms to assess fish welfare" has already been signed by over 21,000 supporters.



+ SumOfUs Fighting for people over profits

Sign the petition

TO: Marine Scotland
Conduct immediate, unannounced on-the-spot inspections of all Scottish salmon farms to assess fish welfare.

21,012 signatures
3,988 SIGNATURES UNTIL 25K

Email Address

Full name

Country
United Kingdom

Postal Code

Add a comment

I buy salmon from M&S

I buy salmon from the Co-op

Yes! Tell me if this campaign wins, and how I can help other relevant campaigns.

Stop salmon from suffering. Investigate Scottish fish farms right now!

Crammed together in cages, plagued by disease and parasites, covered in lesions – and served as 'sustainable' sushi?

The truth about Scottish salmon farming is far, far uglier than its wholesome marketing suggests. Under pressure from thousands of SumOfUs members like you, regulators promised they'd prevent further suffering. But, as shocking new video footage of sick and injured salmon in a farm near Loch Shieldaig proves, they're not acting fast enough.

Sick salmon at a Scottish fish farm prompts welfar... Watch later Share

Sondhya Gupta, [Campaigner at SumOfUs](#), said:

"Scotland's farmed salmon are suffering now, and conditions are only set to worsen as we head into the warmer summer months. Neither they, or the wider marine population, can wait while the authorities drag their feet. It's time for Marine Scotland to get a grip on the terrible conditions in Scotland's salmon farms and hold this multi-million pound industry to account, rather than relying on volunteers and concerned citizens to raise the alarm".



Media Backgrounder

Shamefully, the Scottish Government has failed to [exercise its legislative powers and enforce unannounced inspections of salmon farms](#).



Unannounced Site Inspections

There is a statutory requirement for the inspectorate to carry out unannounced inspections under the EC Directive 2006/88/EC, EC Regulation 882/2004 and The Aquatic Animal Health (Scotland) Regulations 2009. Industry stakeholders also requested that unannounced inspections be undertaken by the inspectorate through the consultation process of the Healthier Fish Working Group in 2010.

In October 2018, a [Scottish Parliamentary Reply by Fergus Ewing](#) (Cabinet Secretary for the Rural Economy) conceded that there had been only two unannounced site inspections of fish farms "in the last year".

A screenshot of the Scottish Parliament website. The header features the Scottish Parliament logo (a purple saltire on a white background) and the text "The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba". To the right of the logo is a search bar with a "Search" button. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for "Home", "Parliamentary Business", "MSPs", "Visit & Learn", "Getting Involved", "News & Parliament TV", and "About the Parliament". Below the navigation menu is a breadcrumb trail: "Home > Parliamentary Business > Motions, Questions and Answers > Motions, Questions and Answers Search". Below the breadcrumb trail is a sidebar with links for "Motions, Questions and Answers", "Written Answer Reports", "Motions, Questions and Answers Search", "About PQs, Answers and Motions", "Vote Search", "Government Initiated Questions (GIQs)", and "Urgent Questions". The main content area is titled "Motions, Questions and Answers Search" and contains the following text: "We've released the first version of our new website and are looking for your feedback. Take a look and give us your views: www.beta.parliament.scot". Below this text is a link for "Motions, Questions and Answers Search Help". Below the link are two buttons: "New Search" and "Refine Search". Below the buttons is a search bar with the text "Search Time: 0 seconds". Below the search bar is a search result for a question: "Question S5W-19233: Alasdair Allan, Na h-Eileanan an Iar, Scottish National Party, Date Lodged: 04/10/2018". The question text is: "To ask the Scottish Government how many unannounced site visits there have been by the Fish Health Inspectorate to fish farms in (a) the Western Isles and (b) Scotland in the last year." Below the question text is the answer: "Answered by Fergus Ewing (30/10/2018): Two unannounced site inspections of fish farms have been completed by the Fish Health Inspectorate in the last year, neither were completed in the Western Isles." Below the answer text is the current status: "Current Status: Answered by Fergus Ewing on 30/10/2018".

Photographer Corin Smith (who obtained [shocking video footage](#) of welfare abuse at a salmon farm in Loch Roag in August 2018) [posted on Facebook](#) last month (19 June):



Corin Smith - Inside Scottish Salmon Feedlots

June 19 at 6:19 AM · 🌐

EMPTY WORDS FROM SCOTTISH REGULATORS

The shocking results of another FOI investigation reveals the Scottish Government's "don't ask don't tell" approach to regulation and an array of broken promises.

Fish Health Inspectorate (Marine Scotland) states:

"There is a statutory requirement for the inspectorate to carry out unannounced inspections under the EC Directive 2006/88/EC, EC Regulation 882/2004 and The Aquatic Animal Health (Scotland) Regulations 2009. Industry stakeholders also requested that unannounced inspections be undertaken by the inspectorate through the consultation process of the Healthier Fish Working Group in 2010."

<https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Fish-Shellfish/FHI>

My investigations revealed nothing more than a cynical box ticking exercise taking place in 2018. It is worth remembering that when the agreement was made with industry, and stakeholders were promised a robust unannounced inspection regime, mortality was HALF of what it is today. Today around 20% of salmon on feedlots fail to survive the seawater phase of the production cycle.

As much as people are concerned about the environmental impacts of salmon farming, it is the piss weak rhetoric of the Scottish Government's industry regulators that really sticks in the throat.

I think we all expected so much more.

Despite the recent promise of tougher regulations from Fergus Ewing, and the private assurances of much more to come, the legacy of mistrust means that success will only ever be judged by outcomes, not intentions.

Full FOI (which is in the appeal process given the lack of information provided)

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/foi-19-00881/>

Did you know?
© Colin Smith

1

Unannounced inspections of salmon farms by Marine Scotland in 2018

   59

13 Comments 44 Shares



 Top Fan

Melville McDonald Control and regulation of the Scottish Salmon Farming industry is just a joke. It is non existent and completely ineffectual. More dereliction of duty by the SNP led Scottish Government misleading the public and destroying the Marine environment with total impunity! Industry leaders get jailed for this kind of behaviour.

Like · Reply · 1w



Andy Majerus It's plain and simple corruption . Until one of the environmental bodies takes direct legal action against individuals at SEPA and the Scottish salmon farming industry absolutely nothing meaningful will get achieved...

Like · Reply · 1w



[View 9 more comments](#)

Here's the [Scottish Government's FOI reply in May 2019](#):

[Home](#) > [Publications](#) >

PUBLICATION - FOI/EIR RELEASE

Unannounced inspections of marine cage fish farms: EIR release

Published: **8 May 2019**

Directorate: [Marine Scotland Directorate](#)

Part of: [Marine and fisheries](#), [Public sector](#)

Information request and response under the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004.

FOI reference: FOI/19/00881

Date received: 21 Mar 2019

Date responded: 7 May 2019

2. Confirmation that a single unannounced inspection took place in 2018.

We can confirm that two unannounced inspections were conducted in 2018. One of these was undertaken at a freshwater fish farm site, the other at Port Na Cro, a seawater fish farm site.

Nor is the Scottish Government the only agency turning a blind eye to the [problems of Scottish salmon farming](#). The Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) [testified to the Scottish Parliament's salmon farming inquiry in February 2018](#) that 15% of inspections of salmon farms in 2017 were unannounced but [later had to correct the information reducing the figure to 9%](#).

Unannounced visits to fish farms

We are taking the opportunity in this response to also make a correction to our written evidence of 16 February regarding the number and frequency of unannounced visits to fish farms. We previously stated the following numbers:

In 2015, 20% of 197 visits were unannounced
In 2016, 35% of 168 visits were unannounced
In 2017, 15% of 132 visits were unannounced.

The figures should be:

In 2015, 14% of 174 visits were unannounced
In 2016, 13% of 152 visits were unannounced
In 2017, 9% of 160 visits were unannounced.

Again, we apologise for the error in our earlier response.

At least the Scottish Parliament has some champions calling for greater scrutiny of salmon farms. The Guardian [reported last month](#) (5 June):

Mark Ruskell, the Scottish Green party's environment spokesman, called for an urgent review of existing fish farms to make sure they met Sepa's new standards, with greater emphasis on animal welfare.

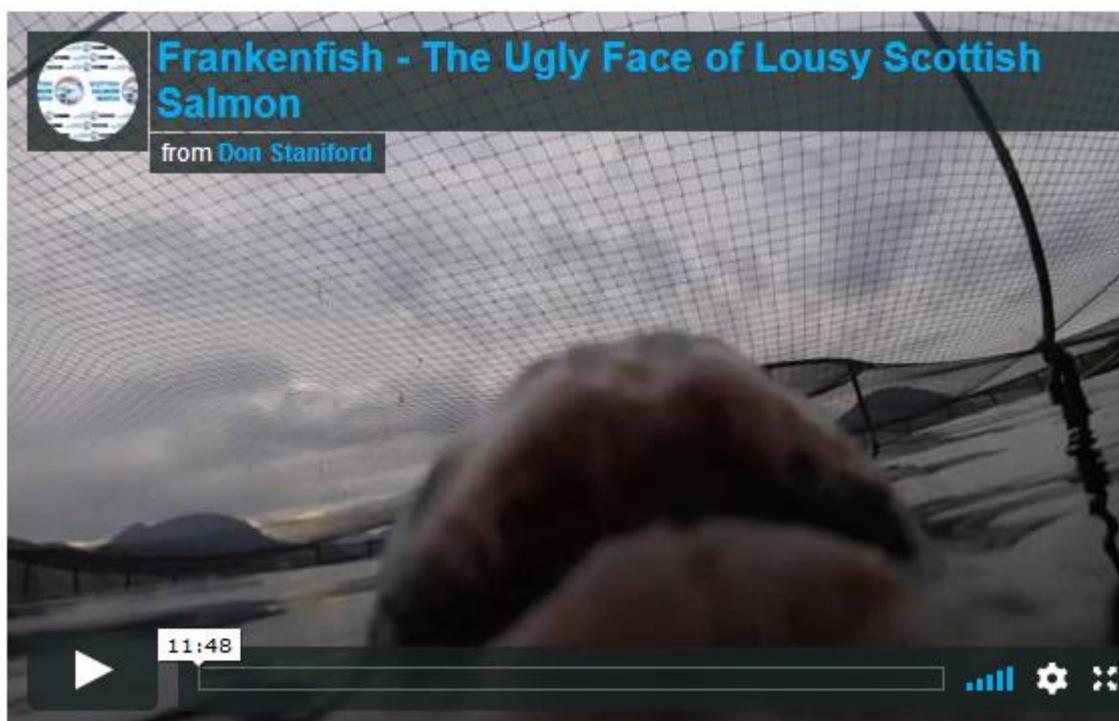
"There are real fears that the industry's plans to double annual production will cause needless suffering to millions of fish," he said.

Last month, Scottish Salmon Watch [challenged the salmon farming industry to install video surveillance](#) on salmon farms to allow the general public to see at first-hand what was going on inside Scotland's battery salmon cages.

"How many wild fish, welfare nightmares and dirty secrets are factory salmon farms hiding?" continued Staniford. "Salmon farms surely warrant the same level of surveillance and scrutiny as terrestrial farming systems. Sadly, it's a case of 'out of sight, out of mind' with consumers completely ignorant to what goes on underwater inside a [disease-ridden Scottish salmon farm](#). The Scottish Government must start collecting data on wild fish trapped inside salmon farms and stop protecting the salmon farming sector from public scrutiny. The BBC brought us Springwatch so why not Salmonwatch?"



[Video footage](#) shot in Loch Shieldaig (8 June) clearly [showed welfare abuse at a salmon farm](#) operated by [The Scottish Salmon Company](#).



STV News [broadcast video footage](#) on the 6pm evening news in Scotland just as people were tucking into their Scottish salmon suppers:



WATCH LIVE



The video footage [prompted the following reactions](#):

Philip Lymbery, CEO of [Compassion in World Farming](#) and author of *[Farmageddon: The True Cost of Cheap Meat](#)*, said:

"I've been working on fish welfare issues for thirty years now and, looking at these photos, I am shocked anew. It reinforces my view that industrial salmon rearing is little more than factory farming at sea. Confined in vast numbers, these natural ocean wanderers have little choice but to swirl in inane circles like caged tigers, all too often becoming diseased, riddled with parasites and wearing themselves sore in the process. It is beyond time for urgent action to stop this animal welfare tragedy unfolding along Scotland's otherwise quiet and picturesque coastline."



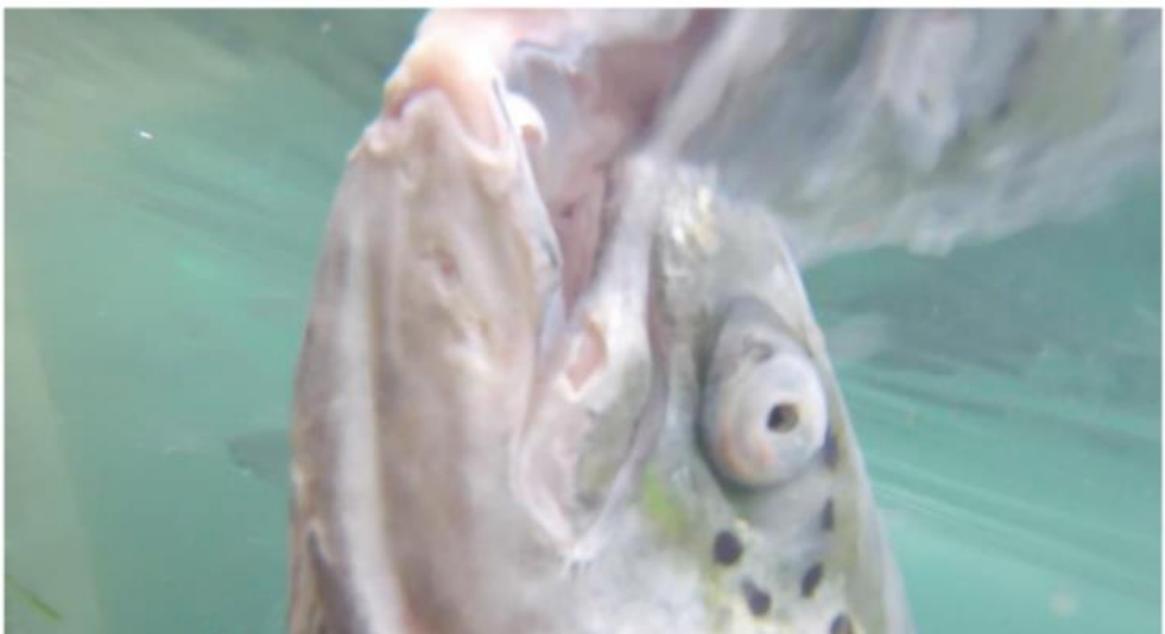
John Robins, Secretary of [Animal Concern](#), said:

"The shocking suffering of these salmon is totally unacceptable. The Scottish Government must take a great deal of the blame. For decades Government has pandered to the industry instead of policing it. Officials have gone to extraordinary lengths to help salmon farmers hide the sick reality of their filthy floating factory farms. I want these fish humanely killed within 24 hours and the owners prosecuted for cruelty and neglect under the [2006 Animal Health & Welfare \(Scotland\) Act](#)."

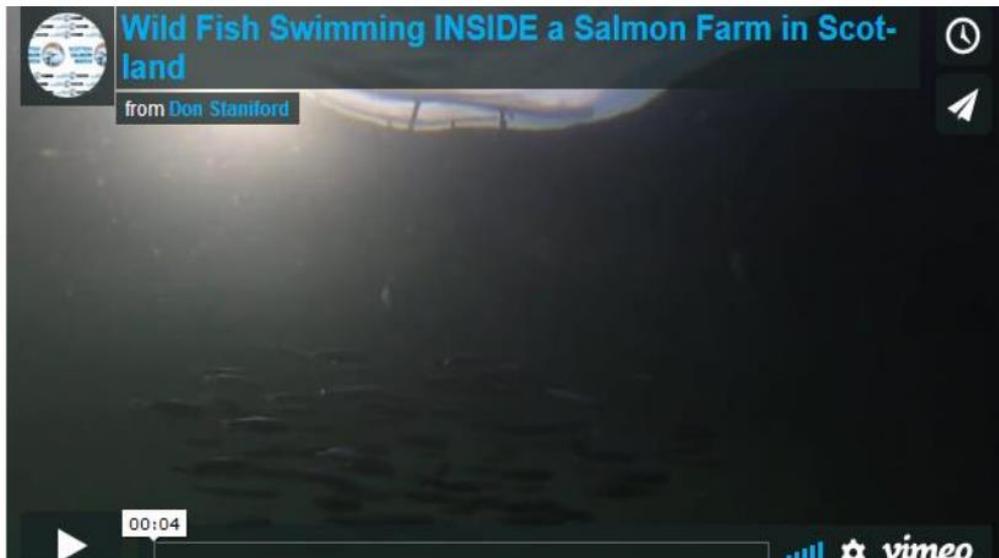


Brian Wilson, environmentalist and kayaker (Author of [Blazing Paddles: a Scottish Coastal Odyssey](#)), said:

"In over 30 years of visiting salmon farms by kayak I've never seen anything so disheartening: listless, distressed and dying fish, without even the energy to leap. This is not aquaculture, this is Auschwitz for Scottish salmon!"



[Video footage](#) shot inside a salmon farm in Lamlash Bay - a Marine Protected Area on the Isle of Arran - on 9 June [showed wild fish \(probably juvenile herring or sprats\) swimming alongside farmed salmon raising the spectre of disease risks.](#)



The salmon farming industry has predicted a "[painful September and October for the salmon industry in Scotland](#)" with a hot Winter causing problems over the Summer for Amoebic Gill Disease in particular.

A screenshot of a website article from SalmonBusiness. The website header includes the logo "SalmonBusiness" and navigation links for "HOME", "CONTACT US", and "JOBS", along with social media icons for Facebook and Twitter. The main image shows a woman, Sabina Medzian, speaking at a podium. Behind her is a blue banner with the text "OCEANS HEAD" and a graphic of a fish. Below the image, the article title is "Mowi Health Manager: 'It can be a painful September and October for the salmon industry in Scotland'" and the byline is "News by Stian Olsen - 24 May 2019".

SalmonBusiness HOME CONTACT US JOBS f t

OCEANS HEAD

Sabina Medzian. PHOTO: Stian Olsen

Mowi Health Manager: "It can be a painful September and October for the salmon industry in Scotland"

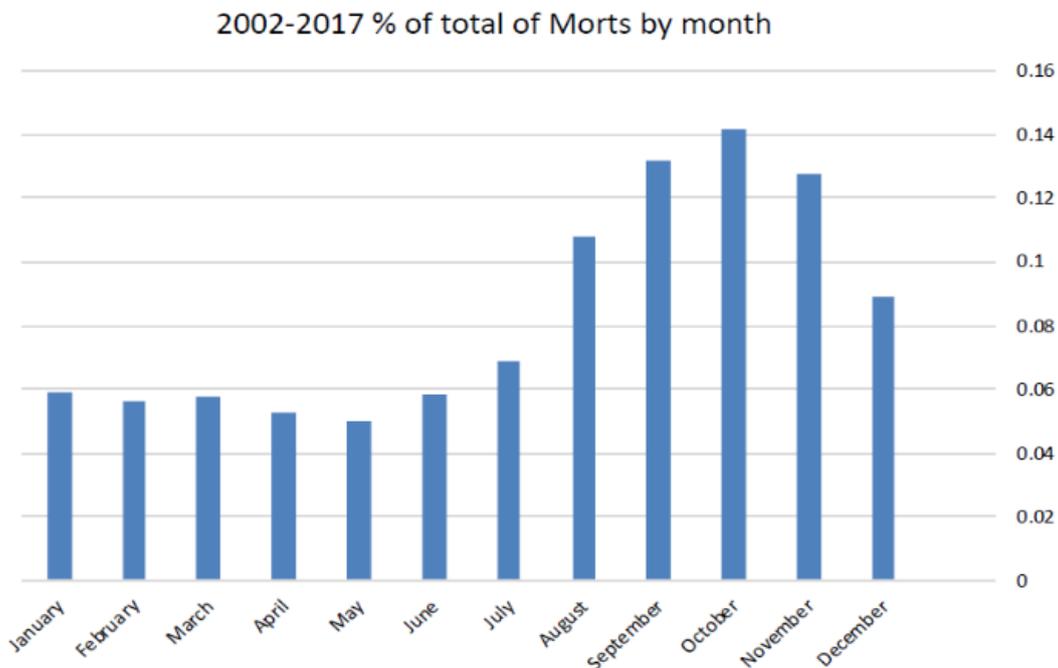
News by **Stian Olsen** - 24 May 2019

Mortality information ([published by SEPA](#)) analysed by Scottish Salmon Watch [shows that the latter months of the year experience the worst mortalities.](#)

Data analysis of [SEPA's mort data since 2002](#) reveals that ca. 30% of mortalities occur in the first six months of the year with ca. 70% of mortalities in the second six months of the year (due to rising Summer temperatures causing lice and disease problems) and the last four months of the year (September to December) accounting for ca. 50% of morts:

	TOTAL ANNUAL MORTS (tonnes)	Q1 + Q2 total	Q1 + Q2 total as a % of the year	Sept - Dec total	Sept - Dec total as % of the year
2018		6581.9			
2017	25737.5	7705.6	29.94%	13309.2	51.71%
2016	22478.4	6396.1	28.45%	10895.5	48.47%
2015	18649.3	4989.9	26.76%	10708.8	57.42%
2014	16479.8	3893.8	23.63%	10461.1	63.48%
2013	10598.0	3882.8	36.64%	5282.0	49.84%
2012	13429.1	4400.8	32.77%	6393.9	47.61%
2011	9670.8	3702.0	38.28%	4854.4	50.20%
2010	7846.0	3987.8	50.83%	2620.1	33.39%
2009	8463.1	2823.6	33.36%	3621.7	42.79%
2008	9201.7	3880.9	42.18%	3952.9	42.96%
2007	11590.4	3458.1	29.84%	6234.4	53.79%
2006	8225.6	3185.2	38.72%	3382.4	41.12%
2005	5222.5	2501.5	47.90%	1933.5	37.02%
2004	6967.1	2825.8	40.56%	2894.3	41.54%
2003	6582.4	2492.4	37.86%	2716.9	41.28%
2002	4582.4	1823.6	39.80%	1654.2	36.10%
		Average	36.09%		46.17%
		10yr average	34.28%		48.79%
		5 yr average	29.08%		54.18%
		3 yr average	28.38%		52.53%

The month of October accounts for over 14% of morts closely followed by September and November which account for well above their fair share of morts (if all morts were spread evenly each month would account for 8%):



Read more via: "[Media Backgrounder: Scottish Salmon's Mort Mountain - Leaping to Record Levels in 2018?](#)"

Last month, Scottish Salmon Watch [revealed that over 50% of farmed salmon had tested positive for the contagious Piscine Reovirus \(PRV\) in 2018 and 2019.](#)



In April, Scottish Salmon Watch [wrote to Scottish Ministers calling for the testing of salmon farms \(including hatcheries and processing plants\) for infectious diseases, viruses and pathogens.](#)



Scottish Ministers
St. Andrew's House
Regent Road
Edinburgh
EH1 3DG
scottish.ministers@gov.scot

5 April 2019

Dear Scottish Ministers,

Surveillance of Salmon Farms, Hatcheries & Ova to Minimise Disease Risks

Will Scottish Ministers commit to a program of increased testing and sampling of farmed salmon (including smolts and ova in hatcheries as well as in sea cages and processing plants) for infectious diseases, pathogens, bacteria, parasites and viruses?

In order to safeguard the health of wild fish (as well as farmed salmon), Scottish Salmon Watch challenges the Scottish Government to establish a strict surveillance regime which would test and report publicly on infectious diseases, pathogens, bacteria, parasites and viruses in the following:

- a) Ova imports
- b) Smolts in the hatchery prior to transfer to sea-cages
- c) Harvest-ready farmed salmon immediately prior to slaughter
- d) Market-ready farmed salmon in the processing plant

In July 2018, Scottish Salmon Watch [called on Scottish Ministers, Police Scotland and the Animal & Plant Health Agency to target salmon farms in the second year of production when disease and welfare problems are at their worst.](#)

However, Scottish Salmon Watch firmly believes that the damning photographic evidence [published by The Ferret in June 2018](#) and case information via Fisheries Health Inspectorate reports are merely the tip of an iceberg. Enhanced inspections and an increased number of inspections at salmon farms [towards the end of their harvest cycle](#) would surely uncover further damning evidence of welfare abuse.

With mass mortalities, infectious disease and welfare problems [expected to peak in late Summer and early Autumn](#), Scottish Salmon Watch recommends that Police Scotland and APHA conduct targeted inspections at salmon farms reaching maximum biomass and in the last few months of their harvest cycle.

In May 2018, Scottish Salmon Watch [revealed that salmon farms were "fast-tracking" the harvesting of fish to avoid disease and welfare problems.](#)

Scottish Salmon Watch, 28 May 2018

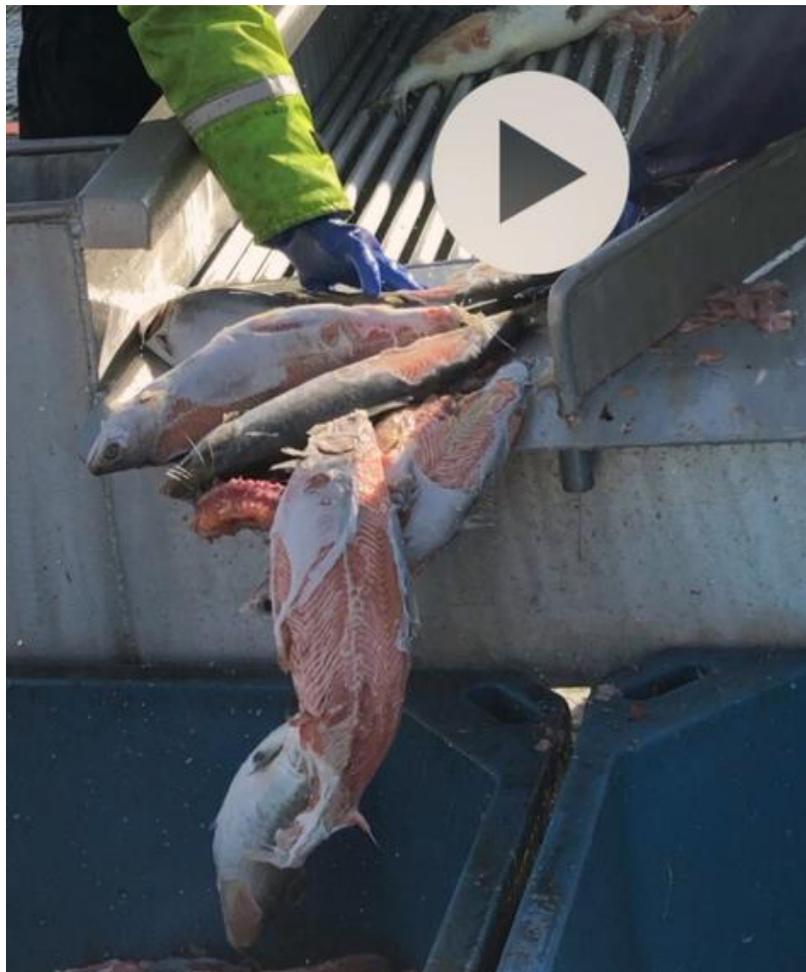
Hard Evidence: Fast-Tracking Disease-Ridden Scottish Salmon

- **Data reveals a shortening of production cycle from 20 to 16 months in last decade**
- **Deaths due to disease 'masked' via early harvest claim Scottish Parliament**
- **'Masked' is an inappropriate word argues Marine Harvest**
- **"The increased ability to grow larger smolts provides the opportunity to reduce the marine grow out phase of farmed salmon, thus reducing the time spent in sea and the length of exposure to marine challenges such as sea lice," claims 'Scotland's 10 Year Farmed Fish Health Framework'**

A data analysis by [Scottish Salmon Watch](#) (see Appendix 1) backs up a [claim by the Scottish Parliament's Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee in March](#) that salmon farmers in Scotland are harvesting early due to lice, disease and mortality problems.



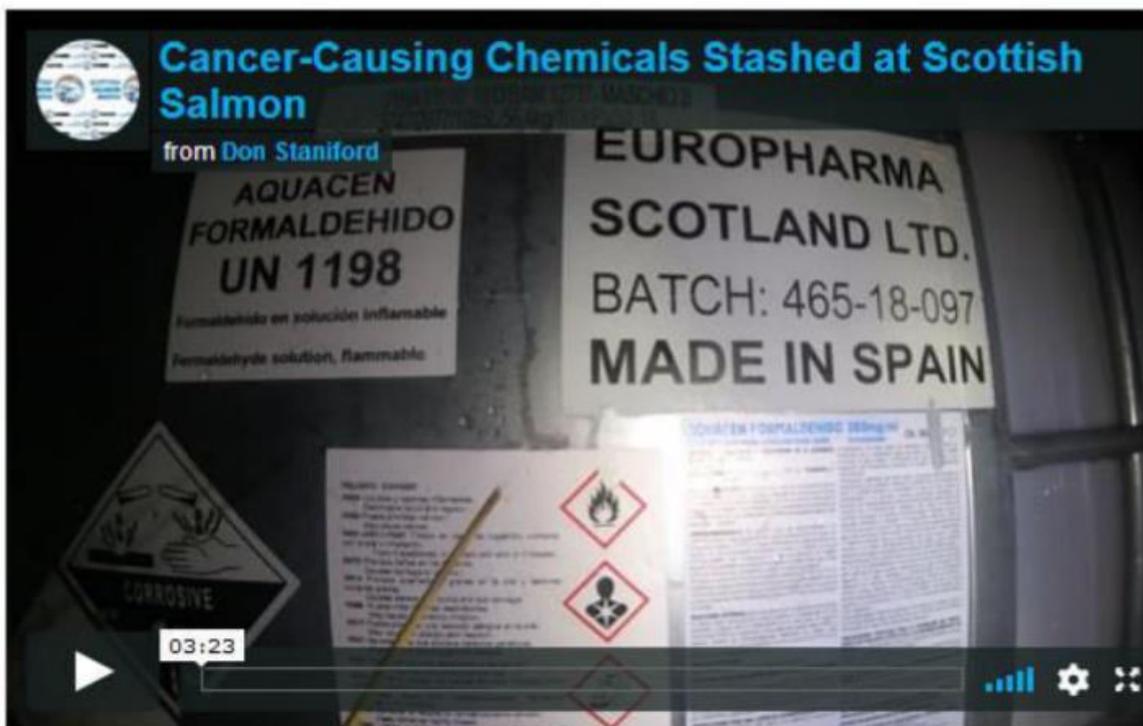
Last year, Scottish Salmon Watch [published leaked photos from a whistleblower detailing a mass mortality at a salmon farm operated by Marine Harvest \(since re-named Mowi\)](#) in the Kilbrannan Sound at Carradale.



And [leaked photos from a whistleblower of hygiene and welfare failures at The Scottish Salmon Company's processing plant at Toward in Argyll.](#)



Scottish Salmon Watch also received a tip-off in March this year [concerning the use of the carcinogenic chemical Formaldehyde](#) at The Scottish Salmon Company's Kinlochmoidart Hatchery and [pollution of the River Moidart 'Special Area of Conservation'](#).

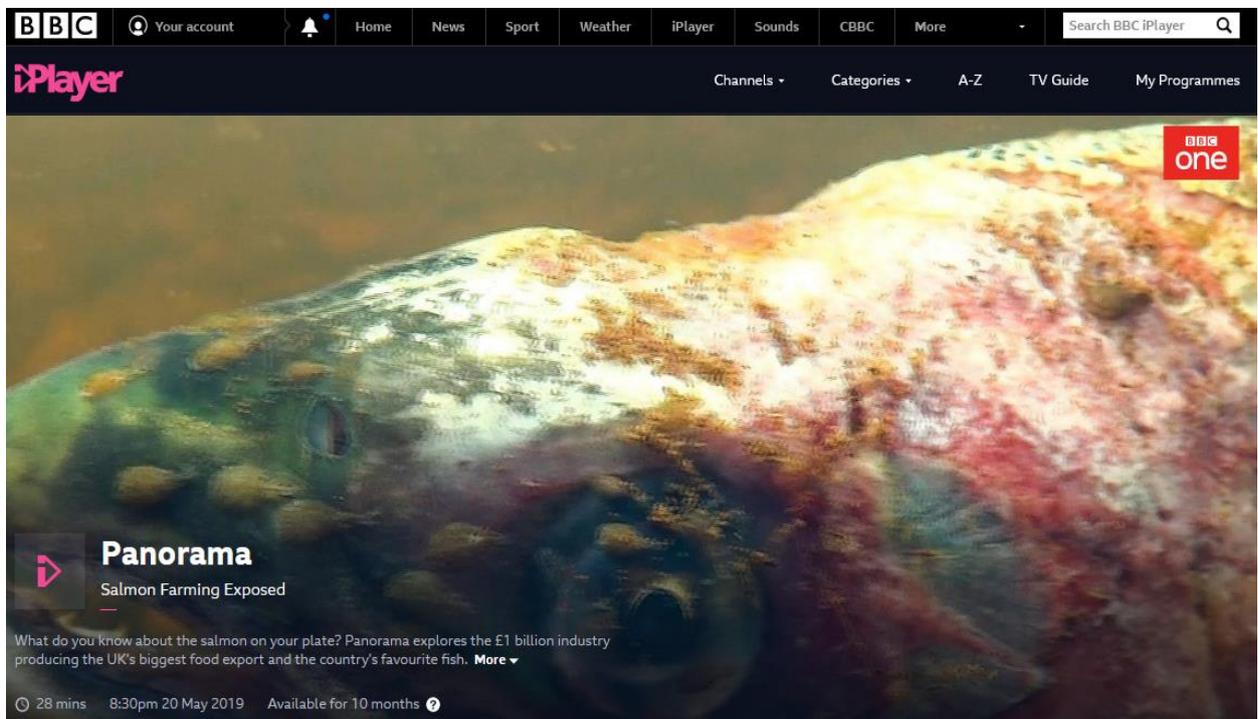


Read more via "[EXPOSED: Scottish Salmon's Cascading Use of Cancer-Causing Chemical](#)" and [Sunday National: "Fears over toxic chemical approved for use in fish farms"](#)



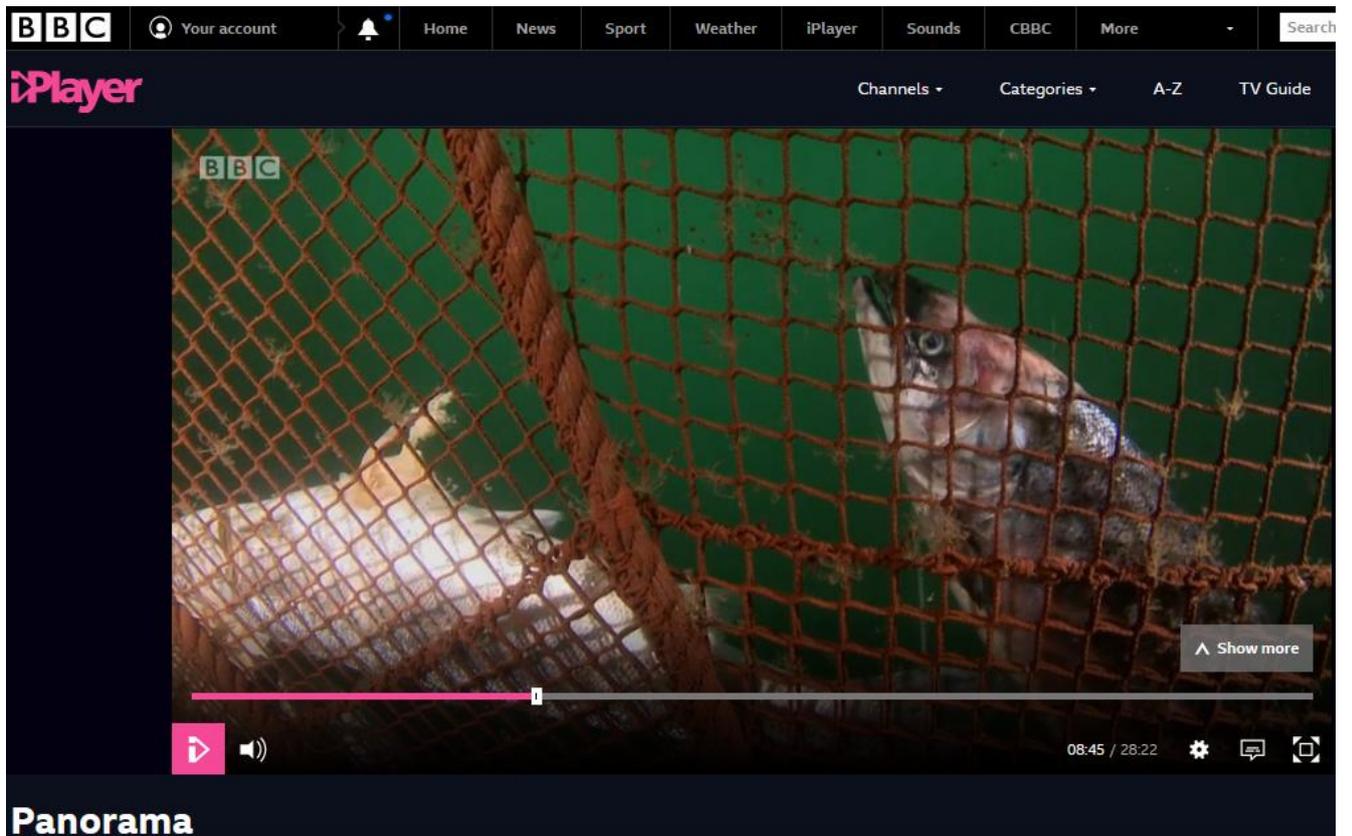
Read more via "[Polluting Lochaber salmon hatchery 'should close' after sewage leak endangers pearls](#)"

The BBC's Panorama show in May - '[Salmon Farming Exposed](#)' - also received information from a whistleblower regarding breaches of biomass and chemical use at salmon farms.

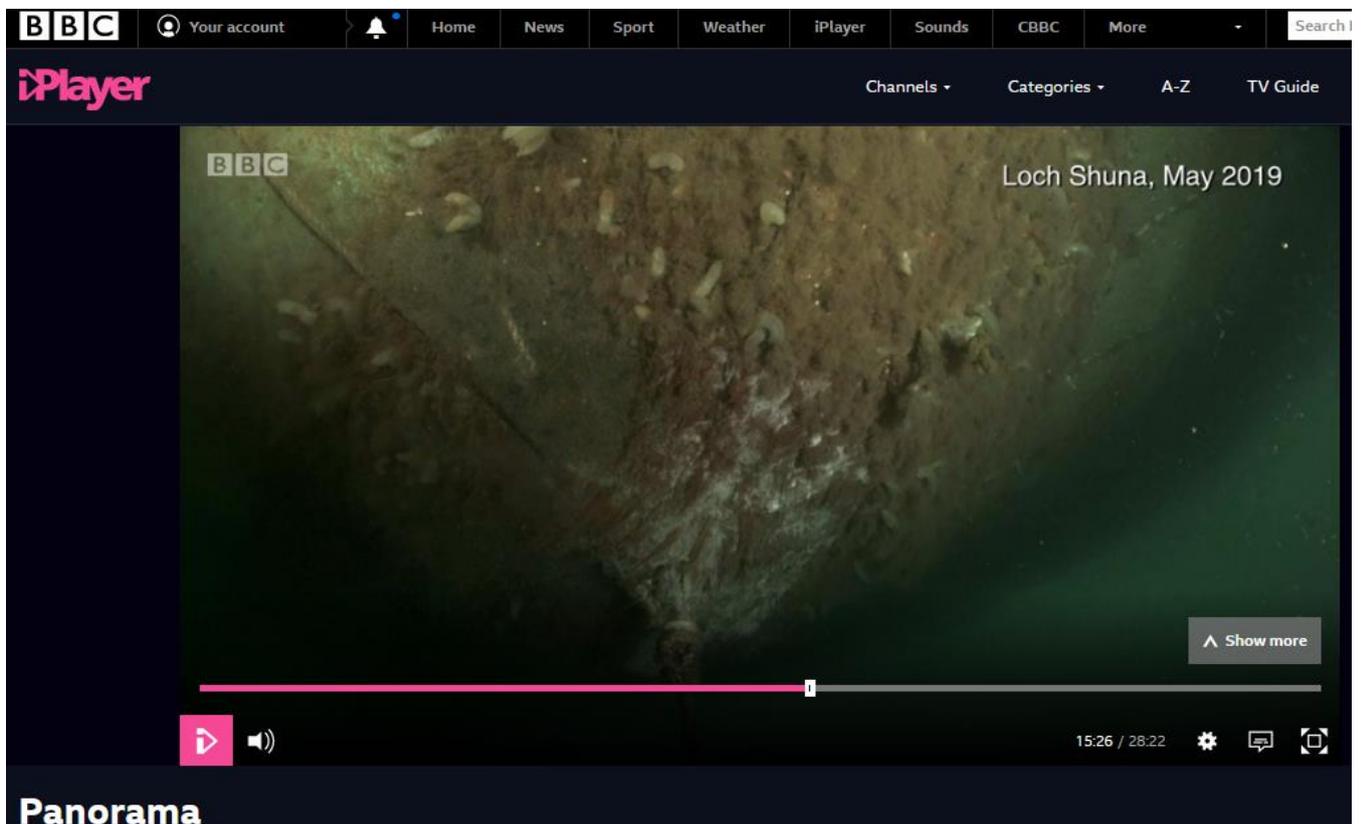


Read more via "[Salmon farming giant Mowi probed over chemical use](#)"

BBC Panorama in May 2019 [featured underwater video footage](#) of dead farmed salmon bulging the net at the bottom of a Scottish salmon farm [shot by diver David Ainsley](#).

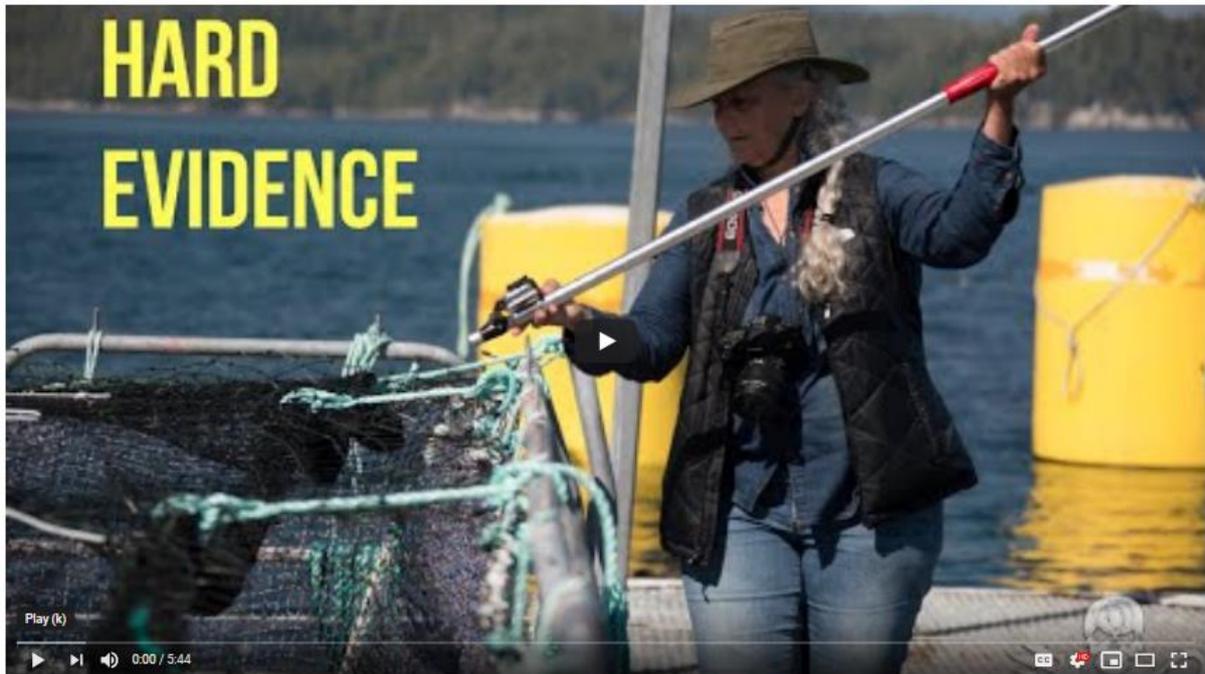


This screenshot shows the BBC iPlayer interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the BBC logo, a search bar, and links for 'Your account', 'Home', 'News', 'Sport', 'Weather', 'iPlayer', 'Sounds', 'CBBC', and 'More'. Below this is the iPlayer logo and navigation options: 'Channels', 'Categories', 'A-Z', and 'TV Guide'. The main video player area displays a close-up of a salmon's head pressed against a brown mesh net. A BBC logo is in the top left corner of the video. A progress bar is visible at the bottom of the video frame, with a play button icon on the left and a volume icon. The video title 'Panorama' is displayed in a dark bar at the bottom of the player. In the bottom right corner of the video frame, there is a 'Show more' button and a timestamp '08:45 / 28:22'.



This screenshot shows the BBC iPlayer interface for a different video. The navigation bar and iPlayer logo are identical to the first screenshot. The main video player area shows an underwater scene with a sandy or silty bottom. A BBC logo is in the top left corner of the video. The text 'Loch Shuna, May 2019' is overlaid in the top right corner of the video. A progress bar is visible at the bottom of the video frame, with a play button icon on the left and a volume icon. The video title 'Panorama' is displayed in a dark bar at the bottom of the player. In the bottom right corner of the video frame, there is a 'Show more' button and a timestamp '15:26 / 28:22'.

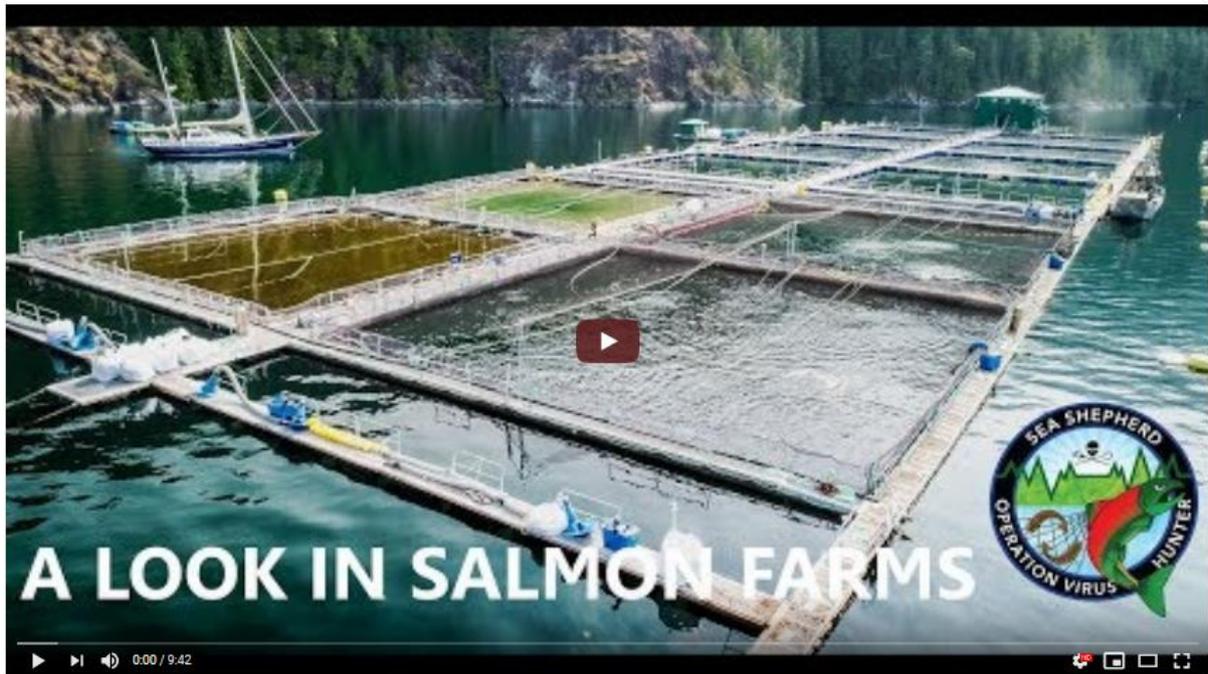
The use of a Go Pro camera inside a salmon farm was [pioneered in 2016](#) by [biologist Alexandra Morton](#) in British Columbia, Canada.



Her video footage recorded the first ['hard evidence'](#) of wild fish swimming inside salmon farms in addition to a [raft of welfare and disease problems](#).

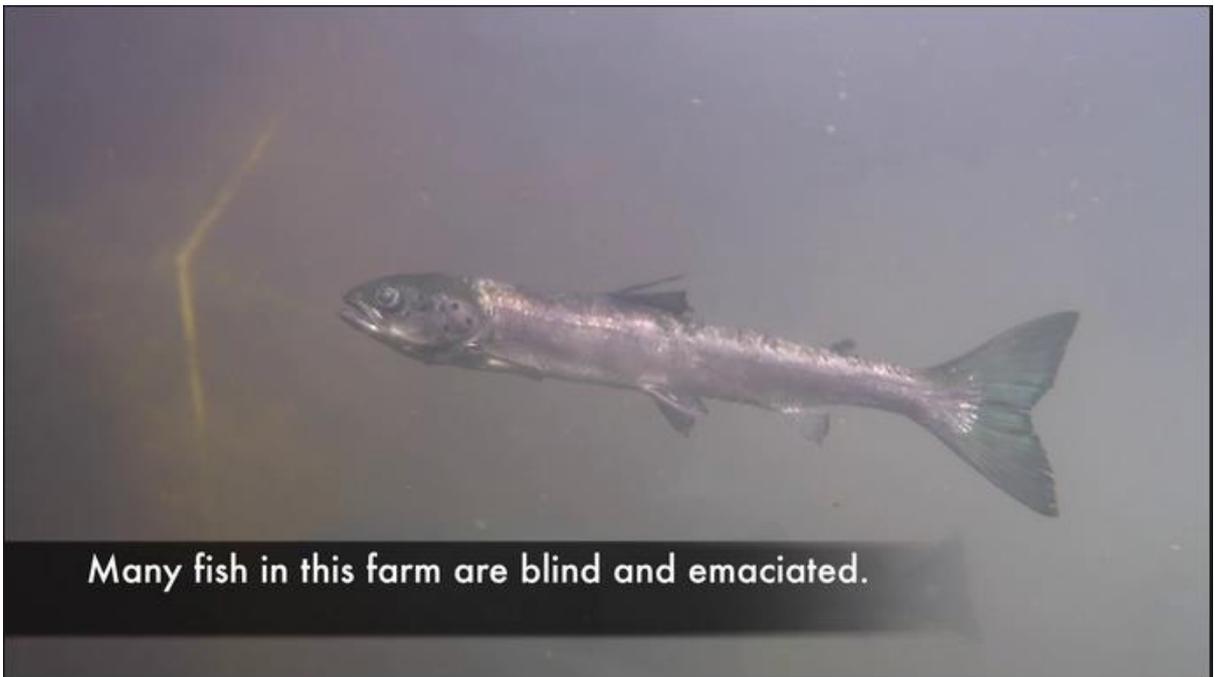


In 2017 and 2018 [further damning video evidence](#) was secured by the Sea Shepherd Society, Alexandra Morton and First Nations leaders filming inside salmon farms in British Columbia, Canada.



Do these farmed salmon caught on camera inside salmon farms look healthy?









Sea Shepherd Society [photographed](#) mort bins full of dead and diseased farmed salmon.



Scottish Salmon Watch [captured video footage](#) of [maggot-infested morts](#) at salmon farms across Scotland in 2018 and 2019:







 **PETA UK** ✓
@PETAUK



THIS is unacceptable – don't ignore the cruelty. 🙄💔

The Sunday Mail newspaper [featured the video footage in November 2018 under the headline:](#)



The screenshot shows the top of a news article from the Daily Record. The navigation bar includes categories like NEWS, POLITICS, FOOTBALL, SPORT, TV & CELEBS, LIFE & STYLE, SCOTLAND NOW, and MORE, along with social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and a search icon. The article's breadcrumb trail is 'R News • Scottish News • Fishing'. The main headline reads 'Scottish salmon farms in disease hell row after tons of rotting fish dumped in skips'. Below the headline is a sub-headline: 'Campaigners have claimed the shocking pictures show disease is rife in Scotland's farmed salmon industry.' The main image is a close-up of a metal skip filled with a large quantity of dead, rotting salmon. The 'Sunday Mail' logo is visible in the top right corner of the image. A caption at the bottom of the image reads 'Scottish Salmon Company site at Strondoir Bay on Loch Fyne'.

Photographer Corin Smith [took drone footage of tonnes of diseased salmon dumped in a burial pit](#) in North Uist in the Outer Hebrides in August 2018:



This nauseating footage was [broadcast by the BBC's The One Show in September 2018](#) along with [video footage of lice-infested farmed salmon in The Scottish Salmon Company's site at Vacasay in Loch Roag](#).



Canada's state broadcaster CBC [featured video footage of "disfigured, unhealthy farmed salmon"](#) captured by [Alexandra Morton and the Sea Shepherd Society in 2017](#).

 **news** New video appears to show disfigured, unhealthy farmed salmon

British Columbia

New video appears to show disfigured, unhealthy farmed salmon



"I'll tell you, I don't sleep right at times, because I keep seeing [it] in my sleep, right?"



[Rafferty Baker](#) · CBC News · Posted: Aug 24, 2017 7:33 PM PT | Last Updated: August 27, 2017



A screen shot from a video posted online appears to show a farmed salmon near Vancouver Island with a disfigurement. (George Quocksister Jr.)

The footage has been edited into a video and posted online by independent biologist and marine activist Alexandra Morton.



"I've been at this for at least 25 years, very, very intensively, and I've never seen footage like this. I made the point in the film, this isn't one farm, it's all of them," said Morton.

CTV featured [video footage shot inside salmon farms](#) in a show broadcast in 2017: "[Farm Troubles: Are fish farms pushing salmon towards extinction?](#)":



W5: Are fish farms pushing salmon towards extinction?

CBC News [reported in 2016](#):

Marine Harvest Canada sues Alexandra Morton for trespassing on fish farms



Morton took video of farmed and wild fish at Marine Harvest aquaculture operation on B.C. coast

[Lisa Johnson](#) · CBC News · Posted: Sep 27, 2016 5:07 PM PT | Last Updated: September 28, 2016



Activist and biologist Alexandra Morton from a video posted by the Voyage for Salmon campaign this summer, describing her visit to a fish farm owned by Marine Harvest Canada. (Sea Shepherd Conservation Society)

Aquaculture company Marine Harvest Canada has filed a lawsuit against activist and independent biologist Alexandra Morton for allegedly trespassing on three of their salmon farms on the B.C. coast last month.

At the Midsummer Island facility, Morton put a GoPro camera in the water on Aug. 23 and filmed the farmed salmon; video from that day has been [posted online](#) by the anti-fish farm campaign.



The Vancouver Star [reported in August 2018](#):

CANADA POLITICS WORLD OPINION LIFE SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT BUSINESS STA

THE STAR

Subs

VANCOUVER

Judge bans salmon farm opponents — except independent biologist — from getting too close

By **Ainslie Cruickshank** StarMetro Vancouver
Thu., Aug. 2, 2018 | 3 min. read



Vancouver Island Free Daily [reported in June 2019](#):



Tsimka Martin holds a rod equipped with a Go Pro camera for plunging into the Creative Salmon fish farm pens. Gisele Martin, forefront, displays a medicine woman mask she brought to witness the activity on the fish farms. OCEAN SIMONE SHINE PHOTO

Tla-o-qui-aht board fish farms to obtain video footage of pens

Activists take footage inside Creative Salmon closed pens in Clayoquot Sound, near Tofino

NORA O'MALLEY / Jun. 19, 2019 6:00 a.m. / LOCAL NEWS / NEWS

Tsimka Martin, owner of Tofino based T'ashii Paddle School, was involved with the fish farm boarding. She said they looked in every pen on both the farms they visited.

"We saw wild herring. A lot of these herring had open wounds on the sides of their bodies. We saw some of the farmed salmon that were very disfigured. We saw some salmon with what looked like ulcers. Some salmon looked like they were yellow and jaundice. We saw some crows that were stuck inside of the nets," Tsimka told the *Westerly News*.

READ: [DFO to test for harmful virus at B.C. fish farms](#)

READ: [First Nations and allies protest fish farms in Clayoquot Sound near Tofino](#)

Cultural activist Gisele Martin carried a medicine woman mask aboard the fish farms.

"I just concentrated on witnessing what's going on with the farms with that mask and really feeling what our people would have thought of it. How our ancestors would have thought of it," said Gisele Martin.

"Now the truth is on film. We got footage. It's time for us to act accordingly," said Gisele.





In 2017, Sea Shepherd Society [captured video footage](#) of wild herring trapped inside salmon farms.



Read more via:

[Wild Fish Trapped - Incidental Catch in the Salmon Farming Industry](#)
[Conservationists raise alarm over wild fish killed inside B.C. salmon farms](#)

In August 2018, Scottish Salmon Watch [filmed wild fish \(believed to be saithe, pollock or herring\)](#) inside a salmon farm at Scallastle Bay on the Isle of Mull.



In June 2019, Sea Shepherd Society [filmed wild salmon trapped inside a salmon farm](#) for the first time in Clayoquot Sound on Vancouver Island, British Columbia.



Video footage [published in 2016](#) shows farmed salmon eating wild salmon inside the cage:



Farm salmon consume wild fish inside salmon farm

2,609 views

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Tamo Campos

Published on Aug 24, 2016

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Go Pro footage shot on Aug 23, 2016 in the Marine Harvest salmon farm, Midsummer Island. This footage shows farm salmon are eating wild fish in Musgamagw Dzawada'enuxw territory (Broughton Archipelago), a Nation that has said NO to salmon farming for almost 30 years.

In addition to filming inside salmon farms, [biologist Alexandra Morton has been sampling the waste effluent from salmon farm for infectious diseases, pathogens and viruses \(with laboratory testing in 2018 finding Piscine Orthoreovirus in 100% of samples tested\)](#).



Scottish Salmon Watch has also [taken samples of the waste effluent around salmon farms](#).



In Norway, Swedish photographer Mikael Frödin [took video footage inside a Grieg owned salmon farm in Altafjord in July 2017.](#)



[Mikael Frödin's](#) video footage was [broadcast on Swedish TV in November 2018](#):

4 Kategorier ▾ Alla program A-Ö Nyheter Kanaler Prova utan rek



Norsk laxodling får hård kritik

Idag 19.22 1:58 min

Sverige importerade lax från Norge för över 30 miljarder förra året. TV4Nyheterna kan i kväll visa starka bilder från en laxodling i Norge. Världsnaturfonden reagerar med skarp kritik mot den norska laxodlingen.

The Go Pro video footage was [showcased by Norway's state broadcaster NRK in October 2018](#):



Et av bildene Mikael Frödin tok ved merden i Altafjorden viser det som mest sannsynlig er en laks angrepet av laxselus.

FOTO: MIKAEL FRÖDIN

And featured in the 2019 film '[Artifishal](#)':



Norway's TV2 [featured the video footage in October 2018](#):



Don Staniford

@TheGAAIA



"There is no human who would eat the salmon we took pictures of" says Swedish journalist Mikael Frödin [@tv2norge](#) bit.ly/2RtoNvx "Will risk prison for the Norwegian wild salmon"



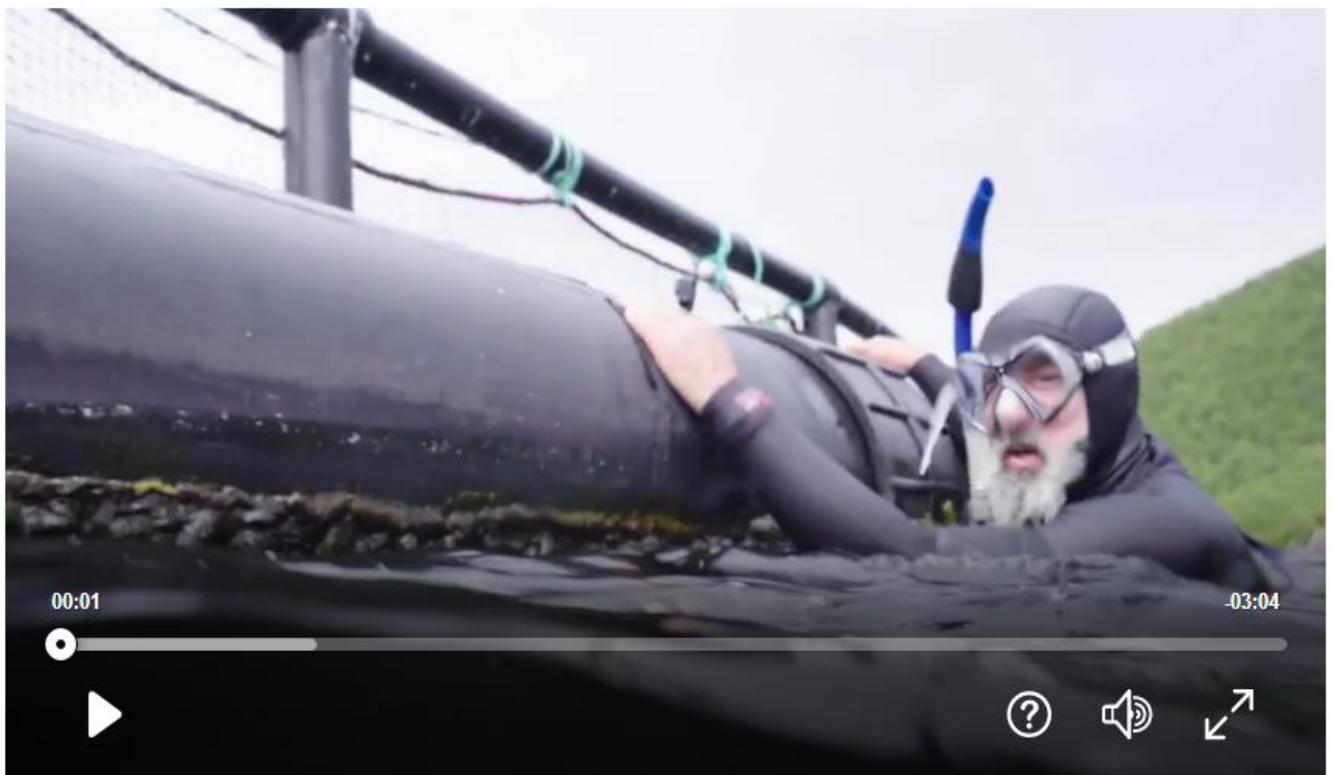
5:37 PM - 2 Nov 2018

Watch the video footage [broadcast by Norway's NRK in November 2018](#) online here

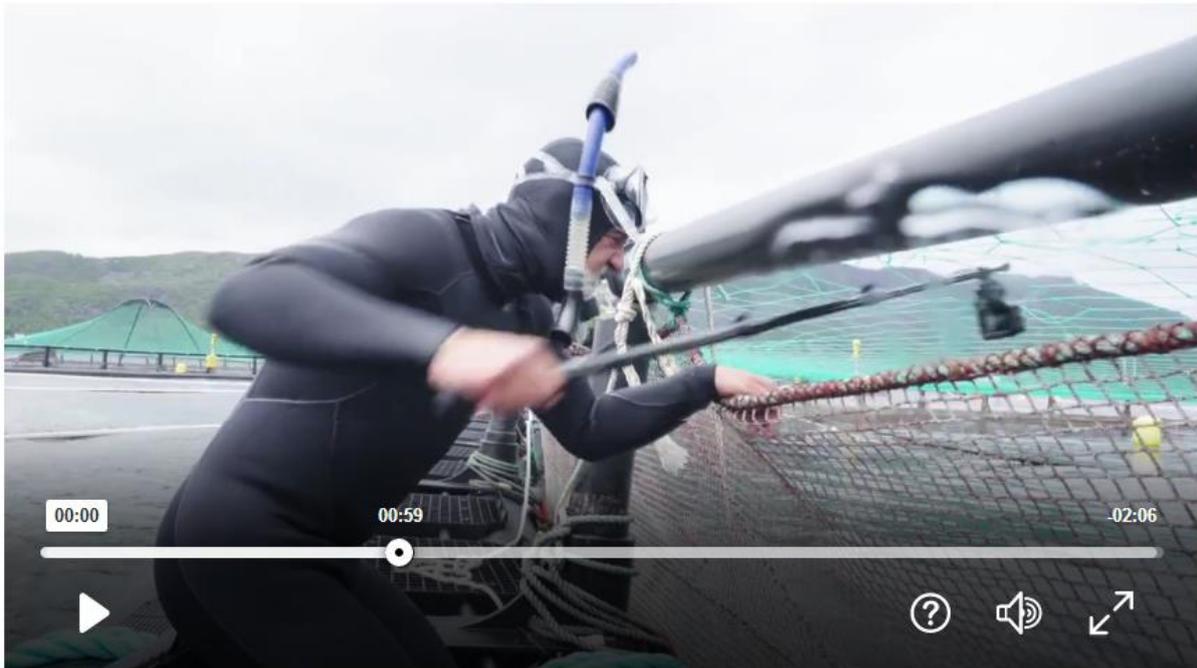


Mikael Frödins video fra en mærde ved et oppdrettanlegg i Altafjorden. Mærda eies av Grieg Seafood.

Mikael Frödin [swam out to the salmon farm armed with a Go Pro camera](#);



"They're all sick, look at them," he [said as he filmed inside the cage](#):



Read more via:

[Independent journalist faces court for trespassing at salmon farm](#)

[Norwegian filmmaker will risk prison to protect wild salmon](#)

[Norway charges journalist for reporting on environmental crimes - Mikael Frödin appeals sentence in salmon farming court case](#)

[Mikael sentenced for encroachment in Alta district court](#)



Diver Frank Melvin took [video footage of the noise pollution emitted by a salmon farm in Scotland in 2018](#).



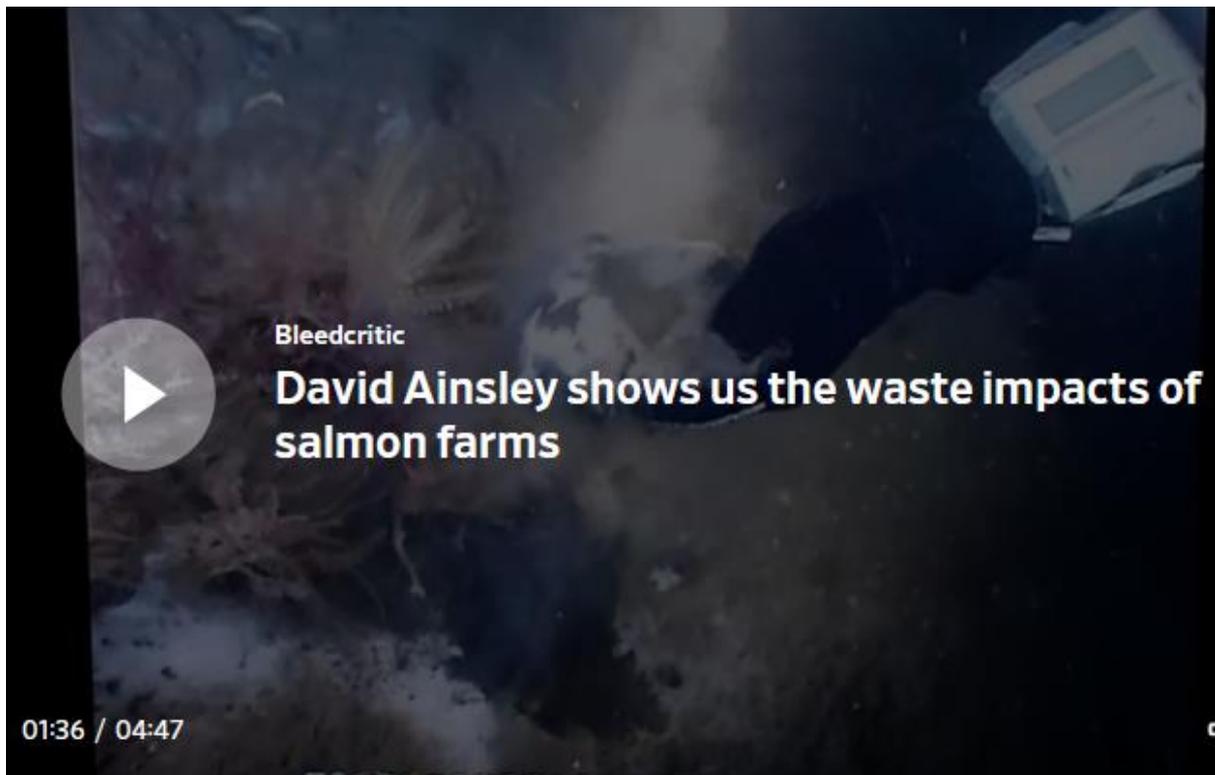
Frank Melvin @Divedyde · 8 Jun 2018

It's not only the use of Acoustic Deterrent Devices by salmon farms that cause underwater noise pollution. Farm production machinery also has a significant impact. [@savescotseas](#) [@scottishseas](#) [@scotsalmontank](#)

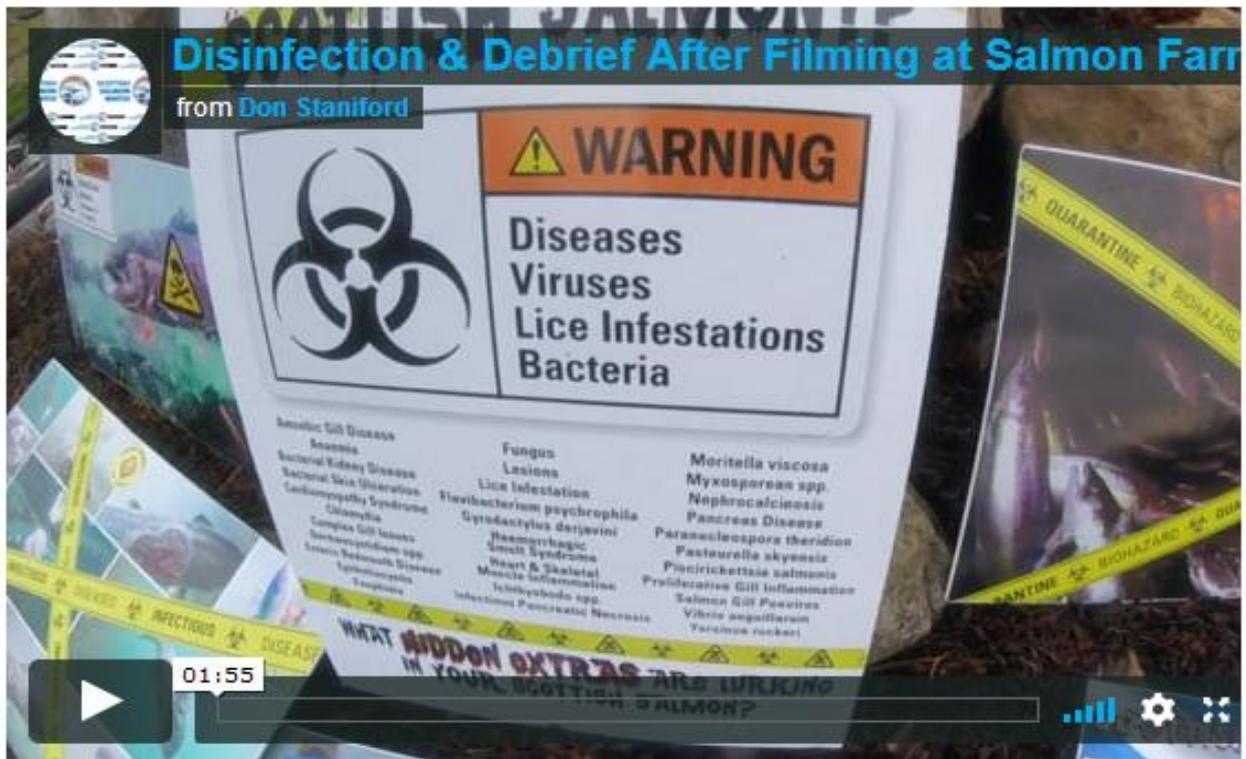
Tap to listen.



Diver David Ainsley's [video footage of the state of the seabed under a Scottish salmon farm is stomach-churning](#).

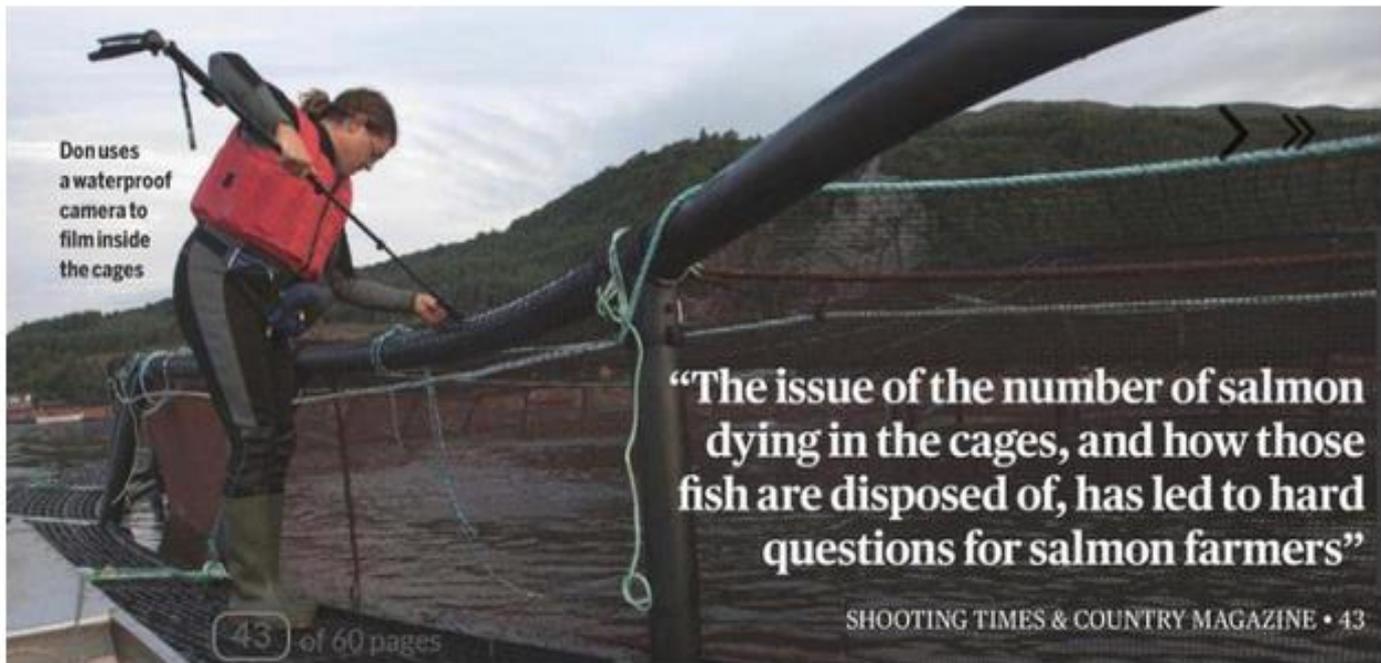


The [vital importance of adhering to biosecurity precautions](#) before, during and after filming at salmon farms cannot be stressed enough.



Read more via "[Biosecurity Precautions for Filming Salmon Farms](#)"

Read a profile of Don Staniford [published in The Shooting Times in October 2018](#):



An interview with Don Staniford in March 2019 is [available online via Fishing REAL](#):



Here's photos of Don Staniford filming with Go Pro cameras:







Read more via [Don Staniford's blog](#), [Scottish Salmon Watch](#), [Scottish Scamon](#), [Salmon Pledge](#) and [Salmon Farming Kills](#)

Read more background via:

[18,000+ Sign Petition: "Stop salmon from suffering. Investigate Scottish fish farms right now!"](#)

[EXPOSED: Scottish Salmon's Cascading Use of Cancer-Causing Chemical Ground-Truthing Disease-Ridden Scottish Salmon](#)

[Scottish Salmon Exposed - Photos from Secret Filming on Arran & in Shieldaig Gotcha: Wild Fish Caught on Camera Inside Scottish Salmon Farm](#)

[The Ferret: "'Sick' salmon film prompts government probe into Scottish fish farm"](#)

[Frankenfish Video - The Ugly Face of Lousy Scottish Salmon](#)

[Mass deaths: nine million fish killed by diseases at Scottish salmon farms](#)

[Disease-Ridden Scottish Salmon](#)

[Mowi's Disease-Ridden Mortalities - 1.6 million+ in 101 incidents \(2017-2018\)](#)

[The Sorry State of Scottish Salmon Farming in 2018](#)

[French & Latvian TV coverage of Scottish salmon](#)

[Scottish salmon farms in disease hell row after tons of rotting fish dumped in skips](#)

[Justice for Fish - Welfare of Scottish Salmon in Legal Spotlight](#)

[Scottish Parliamentary Motion on the Welfare of Farmed Fish](#)

[Parliamentary Motion on the Welfare of Farmed Fish \(Mark Ruskell MSP explains\)](#)

[Dirty Rotten Scottish Salmon - Videos lift lid on can of worms, beetles & maggots!](#)

[Photos: Dirty Rotten Scottish Salmon - Lifting the Lid!](#)

[Video Reveals Maggot-Infested Salmon on Scottish Farms](#)

[Underwater film reveals salmon with twisted spines as fears mount over cages](#)

[Shocking Video Exposes Cruel Salmon Farming in Scotland](#)

[Horrific Footage Exposes Factory Salmon Farming](#)

[The Secrets of Scottish Salmon Farming](#)

[BBC One Show on Lice-Infested Scottish Salmon](#)

[SSPCA under fire over lice-infested salmon filmed at fish farm](#)

[Dirty Secrets Lurking Under Scottish Salmon's Lice Skirt](#)

[Suffering Salmon: Watchdog investigates farm over claims that more than 300,000 fish are infested with lice](#)

[Footage shows 'lice-infested wild salmon'](#)

[Secret Filming Reveals Shocking Images of Unhealthy Scottish Salmon](#)

[REVEALED: Photos Shot Inside Scottish Salmon Farms](#)

[WATCH: "Shocking" footage shows diseased and damaged fish on Scottish salmon farm](#)

[Sick salmon at Scottish fish farm revealed on film](#)

[Shocking images show parasite infested salmon as row over farming continues](#)

[Salmon firms bid to block diseased fish photos](#)

[Hard Evidence: Photos of Diseased & Deformed Scottish Salmon \(August 2018\)](#)

[New report exposes serious welfare issues on Scottish salmon farms](#)

[Revealed: the fish farms worst on animal welfare](#)

[Legal Complaint Vs Breaches of Animal Health & Welfare \(Scotland\) Act](#)

[New photos expose shocking welfare issues on Scottish salmon farms](#)

[Hard Evidence: Photos of Diseased & Deformed Scottish Salmon \(June 2018\)](#)

[Horror photos of farmed salmon spark legal threat](#)

[Exposed: Gruesome photos of diseased and deformed Scottish salmon](#)

[Hard Evidence: Dossier of Data on Lice, Diseases & Mortalities at Scottish Salmon Farms](#)

[Scottish Salmon's Mort Mountain Leaps Over 10 Million - FOI reveals 2.3 million dead salmon at Marine Harvest farms in 2017](#)

[Scottish Salmon Farming 101](#)