

Scottish Salmon Watch, 18 December 2019

'Scottish' Salmon Exposed As Made in Ireland & Iceland

- FOI disclosure reveals Scottish Sea Farms imported 11 million ova (salmon eggs) from Mowi in Ireland & 1.4 million ova from Stofnfiskur in Iceland
- Ruling by Scottish Information Commissioner forced disclosure this week
- Scottish Ministers claimed disclosure "would cause substantial harm to commercial interests" & "prejudice substantially the confidentiality of commercial information"



'Confidential' information [published this week via Freedom of Information](#) reveals that Scottish Sea Farms imported over 11 million ova (salmon eggs) from Marine Harvest (re-named Mowi in 2019) in Ireland and 1.4 million ova from Stofnfiskur in Iceland (via Landcatch) in 2017 and 2018 (data up to March) [1]. Here's the information which Scottish Ministers claimed "would cause substantial harm to commercial interests":

CONFIDENTIAL - DISCLOSURE COULD CAUSE COMMERCIAL HARM

Date	Site of destination	Operator	Consignee on certificate (if different from operator)	Species	Stage	Number	Source Country	Source Company
18/01/2017	Knock Hatchery	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,500,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland
09/02/2017	Couldoran Incubation Unit	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,500,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland
18/01/2018	Knock	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,550,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland
15/02/2018	Couldoran Incubation Unit	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,600,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland
23/02/2017	Ormsary Hatchery	Landcatch Natural Selection Ltd	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	2,200,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland
07/02/2018	Ormsary Hatchery	Landcatch Natural Selection Ltd	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	1,500,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland
01/03/2018	Ormsary Hatchery	Landcatch Natural Selection Ltd	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	800,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland
09/02/2017	Wester Fearn	Highland Salmon Company Ltd	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	400,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland
07/11/2017	Couldoran Incubation Unit	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	745,000	Iceland	Stofnfiskur
30/11/2017	Ormsary Hatchery	Landcatch Natural Selection Ltd	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	400,000	Iceland	Stofnfiskur
08/12/2017	Ormsary Hatchery	Landcatch Natural Selection Ltd	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	300,000	Iceland	Stofnfiskur

Last month, the [Scottish Information Commissioner ruled via Decision Notice \(160/2019\)](#) that the Scottish Government had "wrongly withheld" information and must disclose the requested information to Scottish Salmon Watch by 17 December 2019. In [submissions to the Scottish Information Commissioner](#), the Scottish Government claimed that disclosure of information on imports of ova by [Norwegian-owned Scottish Sea Farms](#) "would cause substantial harm to commercial interests" and "would prejudice substantially the confidentiality of commercial information".

Read more via:

[FOI Victory: Scottish Ministers Forced to Come Clean on 'Scottish' Salmon](#)

[The National: "Watchdog demands release of government facts about Scottish Salmon"](#)

[Scottish Government ordered to release 'confidential' salmon farming data](#)

[Scottish government ordered to give up information about imported salmon eggs](#)

The [Scottish Information Commissioner's ruling via Decision Notice \(160/2019\)](#) included reference to a "mutual confidentiality agreement" that Scottish Sea Farms had entered into between AquaGen AS and Landcatch Natural Selection Ltd:

Submissions from the Ministers

25. The Ministers submitted that there was "a clear commercial nature to this information as it contains details of third party operators and source companies that have imported salmon ova into Scotland." The Ministers explained that SSF had entered into a mutual confidentiality agreement with Aqua Gen AS, and Landcatch Natural Selection Limited, which showed that the information (which was covered by the agreement) was commercially confidential in nature.
26. The Ministers' submission explained that, when dealing with the initial request, they contacted all companies that had imported ova into Scotland since 1 January 2017, asking for their views on whether the information the Ministers held relating to them should be disclosed. In response, SSF provided their reasons for not disclosing specific information, which they considered was excepted under regulation 10(5)(e). In support of this, SSF provided extracts of relevant confidentiality clauses within contractual agreements.
27. The Ministers said that to disclose this information would breach the terms of the confidentiality agreement in place, and would cause substantial harm to the interests of SSF. If the information were released, it would disclose company or commercial strategy in the production of salmon in freshwater, which would substantially prejudice future production strategies.
28. The Ministers acknowledged that similar information relating to other companies had been released, but commented that but these other companies did not object to disclosure of that information in reliance on a confidentiality agreement.

"So called 'Scottish' salmon is a sham, scam and consumer con," said Don Staniford, [Director of Scottish Salmon Watch](#). "Far from a natural wild salmon product, tens of millions of ova are imported from Norway, Iceland and Ireland and on-grown first in hatcheries and then in cages in the sea to be marketed as 'Scottish' salmon by foreign companies who control 99% of production. Why Scottish Ministers were so desperate to hide where Norwegian-owned Scottish Sea Farms sourced their ova is as murky as the untreated wastes and viruses spewing out from a salmon farm. Scotland should follow Norway's lead and ban all ova imports."

"This case highlights how decidedly dodgy 'Scottish' salmon really is," continued Staniford, author of '[Scottish Scamon](#)'. "We now know thanks to the Scottish Information Commissioner's ruling that Scottish Sea Farms imported ova from Mowi in Ireland and from Stofnfiskur in Iceland via Landcatch. But it's still unclear why the disclosure of this information would be so commercially damaging. Did the ova come from salmon stock infected by diseases, pathogens and viruses? Why rivals AquaGen and Landcatch would enter into a mutual confidentiality agreement with Scottish Sea Farms is shrouded in secrecy. Scottish Salmon Watch has filed a further FOI to try and get to the bottom of this fishy mystery. What is crystal clear: consumers should avoid 'Scottish' salmon like the plague!"

The [FOI reply from Scottish Ministers dated 2 July 2018 \(FOI-18-01553\)](#) - which prompted Scottish Salmon Watch's appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner and [victory in November 2019](#) - disclosed an Excel spreadsheet which was redacted in relation to Scottish Sea Farms only:

Date	Site of destination	Operator	Consignee on certificate (if different from operator)	Species	Stage	Number	Source Country	Source Company
09/02/2017	REDACTED	REDACTED		Salmon	Ova	REDACTED	REDACTED	REDACTED
23/02/2017	REDACTED	REDACTED	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	REDACTED	REDACTED	REDACTED
30/11/2017	REDACTED	REDACTED	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	REDACTED	Iceland	REDACTED
08/12/2017	REDACTED	REDACTED	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	REDACTED	Iceland	REDACTED
07/02/2018	REDACTED	REDACTED	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	REDACTED	REDACTED	REDACTED
01/03/2018	REDACTED	REDACTED	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	REDACTED	REDACTED	REDACTED
18/01/2017	Knock Hatchery	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	REDACTED	REDACTED	REDACTED
09/02/2017	Couldoran Incubation Unit	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	REDACTED	REDACTED	REDACTED
07/11/2017	Couldoran Incubation Unit	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	REDACTED	Iceland	REDACTED
18/01/2018	Knock	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	REDACTED	REDACTED	REDACTED
15/02/2018	Couldoran Incubation Unit	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	REDACTED	REDACTED	REDACTED

Information on ova imports involving all other companies including [Marine Harvest \(re-named Mowi on 1 January 2019\)](#) and [The Scottish Salmon Company](#) was disclosed in full:

Date	Site of destination	Operator	Species	Stage	Number	Source Country	Source Company
25/01/2017	Lochailort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd	Salmon	Ova	156,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
16/02/2017	Lochailort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd	Salmon	Ova	4,000,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
29/03/2017	Lochailort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd	Salmon	Ova	2,664,900	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
29/03/2017	Lochailort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd	Salmon	Ova	1,285,100	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
13/06/2017	Lochailort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd	Salmon	Ova	1,506,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
13/06/2017	Lochailort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd	Salmon	Ova	2,494,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
16/11/2017	Lochailort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd	Salmon	Ova	3,600,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
20/12/2017	Inchmore	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd	Salmon	Ova	1,950,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
20/12/2017	Inchmore	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd	Salmon	Ova	1,950,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
31/01/2018	Lochailort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd	Salmon	Ova	216,592	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
07/02/2018	Lochailort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd	Salmon	Ova	1,884,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
08/02/2018	Inchmore	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd	Salmon	Ova	2,300,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
18/04/2018	Lochailort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd	Salmon	Ova	3,500,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
16/05/2018	Lochailort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd	Salmon	Ova	3,800,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
15/05/2018	Inchmore	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd	Salmon	Ova	1,300,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway

Date	Site of destination	Operator	Consignee on certificate (if different from operator)	Species	Stage	Number	Source Country	Source Company
11/01/2017	Kinlochmoidart Hatchery	Sunbeam Aquaculture	The Scottish Salmon Company	Salmon	Ova	785,250	Norway	AquaGen AS
16/02/2017	Kinlochmoidart Hatchery	Sunbeam Aquaculture	The Scottish Salmon Company	Salmon	Ova	562,500	Norway	AquaGen AS
11/01/2017	Tullich Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	1,176,000	Iceland	Stofnfiskur
15/02/2017	Geocrab Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	876,000	Iceland	Stofnfiskur
01/03/2017	Geocrab Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	396,000	Norway	AquaGen AS
23/02/2017	Geocrab Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	55,000	Iceland	Stofnfiskur
09/11/2017	Tullich Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	2,714,250	Iceland	Stofnfiskur
22/11/2017	Kinlochmoidart Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	1,522,500	Iceland	Stofnfiskur
15/11/2017	Barvas Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	172,000	Iceland	Stofnfiskur
01/02/2018	Tullich Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	1,360,000	Iceland	Stofnfiskur
30/01/2018	Barvas Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	1,047,500	Norway	Salmobreed
30/01/2018	Amhuinsuidhe Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	400,000	Norway	Salmobreed
01/03/2018	Kinlochmoidart Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	615,000	Iceland	Stofnfiskur
27/02/2018	Geocrab Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	508,000	Norway	Salmobreed

Download the data in full [online here](#) (also includes import certificates from [Marine Harvest Ireland](#), [AquaGen](#) and [Stofnfiskur](#))



[Copy of FoI-18-01553 - Import information.xlsx](#)

XLSX | 15.6 kB

[Download](#)

Other information [disclosed by Scottish Ministers via FOI-18-01553 in July 2018](#) relates directly to Marine Harvest in Ireland ([Marine Harvest was re-named Mowi in January due to negative consumer perception despite vehement objections from the Mowinckel family who gave their name to Mowi](#)). These documents indicate that there was no physical inspection of the consignments of ova prior to import to Scotland from Ireland although reference is made to "disease problems" and "the risk of disease transfer" (download documents [online here](#)).

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 February 2017 10:46
To: [REDACTED]@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
Subject: Salmon eggs

Hi [REDACTED]

Long time no hear – hope you are keeping well.

I have a query about a consignment of eggs which is due to leave Marine Harvest Donegal next week bound for Scotland.

We have our Inspector there today to certify some other consignments which are due to go this week and to satisfy himself that all's fine in the hatchery and that the certs can be signed. Would you be satisfied that if all's in order, that he will also sign the cert for next week's consignment when he is there and that it will then be dispatched with the consignment this day next week? Obviously the hatchery will be advised that if anything changes in relation to the health status of the site in the meantime that they must let us know.

I don't see anything in the legislation that precludes this approach but I thought I'd better check with you first.

Many thanks and regards,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@marine.ie]
Sent: 15 February 2017 11:16
To: MS FishHealth
Subject: FW: Salmon eggs

Hi,

I see that [REDACTED] is out of the office. I would be grateful if somebody else could deal with the query below in her absence.

Regards,

[REDACTED]
FHU Manager
Marine Institute
Rinville
Oranmore
Co. Galway
Ireland

From: MS.FishHealth@gov.scot [mailto:MS.FishHealth@gov.scot]
Sent: 15 February 2017 14:36
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Subject: RE: Salmon eggs

Hi [REDACTED]

Apologies for the delay in responding to you, we are a bit thin on the ground today and indeed [REDACTED] is out in the Field this week.

[REDACTED]

With the EU ova exports (as I'm sure you are aware) it states in the certificate that 'in the case of egg and molluscs, come from a farm or area where according to the records of the farm or mollusc farming area, there is no indication of disease problems'

We have interpreted this as meaning that we do not need to physically inspect these consignments however we do get the farm to confirm mortality figures and confirm that there are no unexplained mortalities.

To meet the requirements of section II.4.3 which states that 'the transport container or well boat prior to loading is clean and disinfected and previously unused' we get confirmation that they are using new transport boxes or confirm what disinfection has been used.

We then post the certificate to the site using recorded next day delivery service. We would always try to get this completed as close to the time the consignment is to be sent to ensure that there is less chance for the health status to change.

We think this is a fairly pragmatic approach and technically meets the requirements of the legislation and indeed Norway has also adopted this method of working.

Whilst technically you could certify a consignment seven days in advance we would prefer that the certificate is signed and issued as close to the time it is due to be sent to provide assurances that the records have been checked and that there is no indication of disease problems on the site.

If you need to discuss or need further clarification please give me a call, I believe [REDACTED] may be in later as well.

With regards

[REDACTED]
Senior Fish Health Inspector

Fish Health Inspectorate
Marine Scotland Science
Marine Laboratory
375 Victoria Road
Aberdeen
AB11 9DB

Tel (direct): 01224 [REDACTED]
Mobile: [REDACTED]
email: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

marinescotland

[REDACTED] (MARLAB)

From: [REDACTED]@marine.ie>
Sent: 15 February 2017 14:39
To: MS FishHealth
Cc: [REDACTED] (MARLAB)
Subject: RE: Salmon eggs

That's all very clear, [REDACTED] – many thanks.

I will ensure the certificate is posted to MH as close to the time of departure as possible although I believe the checks we already have in place as outlined below mitigate against any real risk of disease transfer.

All the best,

[REDACTED]

The consignment discussed above is understood to relate to the import of 2.2 million ova by Scottish Sea Farms (via Landcatch) to the Ormsary Hatchery on 23 February 2017 ([as disclosed via FOI-18-01553 on 16 December 2019](#)):

Date	Site of destination	Operator	Consignee on certificate (if different from operator)	Species	Stage	Number	Source Country	Source Company
23/02/2017	Ormsary Hatchery	Landcatch Natural Selection Ltd	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	2,200,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland
16/02/2017	Cairndow Hatchery	Lakeland (Cairndow) Ltd	Cooke Aquaculture Freshwater Ltd	Salmon	Ova	1,400,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland
09/02/2017	Couldoran Incubation Unit	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,500,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland
09/02/2017	Wester Fearn	Highland Salmon Company Ltd	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	400,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland
18/01/2017	Knock Hatchery	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,500,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland

Scottish Salmon Watch's polite request to meet with Landcatch to discuss the disease risks of ova imports was refused earlier this year - but [we visited their Ormsary Hatchery anyway](#).



FOI-18-01553 also disclosed an 'Import Notification Form', an 'EU Health Certificate' and various import certificates including [an import certificate relating to Marine Harvest Ireland signed on 19 February 2018](#) (no import certificates dated February 2017 were disclosed).

EUROPEAN UNION

1251/2008 (2016/1096) Placing on the market of aquaculture animals for farming, relaying, put and take fisheries, open ornamental facilities and restocking

Part II: Certification	II Health information	II a Certificate reference number INTRA IE 2018 002486	II b Local reference number EXP-2422
	<p>II 1 General requirements</p> <p>I, the undersigned official inspector, hereby certify that the aquaculture animals referred to in Part I of this certificate</p> <p>II 1.1 either (1) [have been inspected within (1)(3)(72) (1)(24) hours of loading, and showed no clinical signs of disease]</p> <p>or (1) [in the case of eggs and molluscs, come from a farm or mollusc farming area where, according to the records of the farm or mollusc farming area, there is no indication of disease problems]</p> <p>or (1)(3) [in the case of wild aquatic animals, according to the best of my knowledge and belief are clinically healthy];</p> <p>II 1.2 are not subject to any prohibitions due to unresolved increased mortality;</p> <p>II 1.3 are not intended for destruction or slaughter for the eradication of diseases;</p> <p>II 1.4 comply with the requirements for placing on the market laid down in Directive 2006/88/EC;</p> <p>II 1.5 (1) [in the case of molluscs, were subject to an individual visual check of each part of the consignment, and no mollusc species other than those specified in Part I of the certificate were detected]</p> <p>(1)(4)(5) [Requirements for species susceptible to Viral haemorrhagic septicemia (VHS), Infectious haematopoietic necrosis (IHN), Infectious salmon anaemia (ISA), Koi herpes virus (KHV), Marteilia refringens, Bonamia ostreae, and/or White spot disease]</p> <p>I, the undersigned official inspector, hereby certify that the aquaculture animals referred to above</p> <p>either (1)(6) [originate from a Member State, zone or compartment declared free from (1) [VHS] (1) [IHN] (1) [ISA] (1) [KHV] (1) [Marteilia refringens] (1) [Bonamia ostreae] (1) [White spot disease] in accordance with Chapter VII of Directive 2006/88/EC]</p> <p>or (1)(5)(6) [in the case of wild aquatic animals, have been subject to quarantine in accordance with Decision 2009/946/EC];</p> <p>II 3 (1)(7) [Requirements for vector species to Viral haemorrhagic septicemia (VHS), Infectious haematopoietic necrosis (IHN), Infectious salmon anaemia (ISA), Koi herpes virus (KHV), Marteilia refringens, Bonamia ostreae, and/or White spot disease]</p> <p>I, the undersigned official inspector, hereby certify that the aquaculture animals referred to above which are to be regarded as possible vectors to (1) [VHS] (1) [IHN] (1) [ISA] (1) [KHV] (1) [Marteilia refringens] (1) [Bonamia ostreae] (1) [White spot disease] as they are of species listed in Column 2 and fulfil the conditions set out in Column 3 of the table in Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 1251/2008</p> <p>either (1)(6) [originate from a Member State, zone or compartment declared free from (1) [VHS] (1) [IHN] (1) [ISA] (1) [KHV] (1) [Marteilia refringens] (1) [Bonamia ostreae] (1) [White spot disease] in accordance with Chapter VII of Directive 2006/88/EC]</p> <p>or (1)(6)(7) [have been subject to quarantine in accordance with Decision 2009/946/EC];</p>		

EUROPEAN UNION

1251/2008 (2016/1096) Placing on the market of aquaculture animals for farming, relaying, put and take fisheries, open ornamental facilities and restocking

Part II: Certification	II Health information	II a Certificate reference number INTRA IE 2018.0002486	II b Local reference number EXP-2422
	<p>II 1 General requirements</p> <p>I, the undersigned official inspector, hereby certify that the aquaculture animals referred to in Part I of this certificate</p> <p>II 1.1 either (1) [have been inspected within (1)(3)(72) (1)(24) hours of loading, and showed no clinical signs of disease]</p> <p>or (1) [in the case of eggs and molluscs, come from a farm or mollusc farming area where, according to the records of the farm or mollusc farming area, there is no indication of disease problems]</p> <p>or (1)(3) [in the case of wild aquatic animals, according to the best of my knowledge and belief are clinically healthy];</p> <p>II 1.2 are not subject to any prohibitions due to unresolved increased mortality;</p> <p>II 1.3 are not intended for destruction or slaughter for the eradication of diseases;</p> <p>II 1.4 comply with the requirements for placing on the market laid down in Directive 2006/88/EC;</p> <p>II 1.5 (1) [in the case of molluscs, were subject to an individual visual check of each part of the consignment, and no mollusc species other than those specified in Part I of the certificate were detected]</p> <p>(1)(4)(5) [Requirements for species susceptible to Viral haemorrhagic septicemia (VHS), Infectious haematopoietic necrosis (IHN), Infectious salmon anaemia (ISA), Koi herpes virus (KHV), Marteilia refringens, Bonamia ostreae, and/or White spot disease]</p> <p>I, the undersigned official inspector, hereby certify that the aquaculture animals referred to above</p> <p>either (1)(6) [originate from a Member State, zone or compartment declared free from (1) [VHS] (1) [IHN] (1) [ISA] (1) [KHV] (1) [Marteilia refringens] (1) [Bonamia ostreae] (1) [White spot disease] in accordance with Chapter VII of Directive 2006/88/EC]</p> <p>or (1)(5)(6) [in the case of wild aquatic animals, have been subject to quarantine in accordance with Decision 2009/946/EC];</p> <p>II 3 (1)(7) [Requirements for vector species to Viral haemorrhagic septicemia (VHS), Infectious haematopoietic necrosis (IHN), Infectious salmon anaemia (ISA), Koi herpes virus (KHV), Marteilia refringens, Bonamia ostreae, and/or White spot disease]</p> <p>I, the undersigned official inspector, hereby certify that the aquaculture animals referred to above which are to be regarded as possible vectors to (1) [VHS] (1) [IHN] (1) [ISA] (1) [KHV] (1) [Marteilia refringens] (1) [Bonamia ostreae] (1) [White spot disease] as they are of species listed in Column 2 and fulfil the conditions set out in Column 3 of the table in Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 1251/2008</p> <p>either (1)(6) [originate from a Member State, zone or compartment declared free from (1) [VHS] (1) [IHN] (1) [ISA] (1) [KHV] (1) [Marteilia refringens] (1) [Bonamia ostreae] (1) [White spot disease] in accordance with Chapter VII of Directive 2006/88/EC]</p> <p>or (1)(6)(7) [have been subject to quarantine in accordance with Decision 2009/946/EC];</p>		

Official veterinarian or official inspector	Qualification and title: Official veterinarian
Name (in Capital) [REDACTED]	LVU N°: IE00500
Local Veterinary Unit: Ráthfriland	Signature: [REDACTED]
Date: 19/2/18	
Stamp	

Further data was [disclosed by the Scottish Government in May 2019 via FOI-19-00976](#) but again information on Scottish Sea Farms was redacted with the Scottish Government arguing that "disclosure of this particular information would, or would be likely to, prejudice substantially the confidentiality of commercial information provided by Scottish Sea Farms and thus cause substantial harm to their commercial interests".



Imports of salmon eggs (ova) involving Marine Harvest/Mowi: EIR release

Published: 7 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/19/00976

Date received: 3 Apr 2019

Date responded: 1 May 2019

Reasons for not providing information - Annex

An exception applies

An exception under regulation 10(5)(e) of the EIRs (substantial prejudice to confidentiality of commercial information) applies to some of the information you have requested. This exception applies because disclosure of this particular information would, or would be likely to, prejudice substantially the confidentiality of commercial information provided by Scottish Sea Farms and thus cause substantial harm to their commercial interests. Disclosing this information would be likely to give competitors an advantage by revealing company or industrial commercial strategy for production of salmon in freshwater, thereby substantially prejudicing future production strategies.

This exception is subject to the 'public interest test'. Therefore, taking account of all the circumstances of this case, we have considered if the public interest in disclosing the information outweighs the public interest in applying the exception. We have found that, on balance, the public interest lies in favour of upholding the exception. We recognise that there is a public interest in disclosing information as part of open and transparent government. However, there is a greater public interest in protecting the commercial interests of companies that provide employment and contribute economically to Scotland.

This [Excel spreadsheet details](#) a further 12.2 million ova imported by Scottish Sea Farms in 2018 and 2019 (data up to March) which has been redacted by the Scottish Government:

Date consignment due	Destination site name	Destination business name	Consignee Business name (if different from destination business)	Species	Stage	Number in consignment	Source Country	Import consignor
18/01/2018	Knock	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,550,000	<Redacted>	<Redacted>
07/02/2018	<Redacted>	<Redacted>	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	1,500,000	<Redacted>	<Redacted>
15/02/2018	Couldoran Incubation Unit	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,600,000	<Redacted>	<Redacted>
01/03/2018	<Redacted>	<Redacted>	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	800,000	<Redacted>	<Redacted>
08/11/2018	Couldoran Incubation Unit	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	2,150,000	<Redacted>	<Redacted>
27/11/2018	Barcaldine Hatchery Incubation 1	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,250,000	<Redacted>	<Redacted>
27/11/2018	Barcaldine Hatchery Incubation 3	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,250,000	<Redacted>	<Redacted>
10/01/2019	Barcaldine Hatchery Incubation 4	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,500,000	<Redacted>	<Redacted>
10/01/2019	Barcaldine Hatchery Incubation 2	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,500,000	<Redacted>	<Redacted>
16/01/2019	Knock	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,500,000	<Redacted>	<Redacted>
21/03/2019	Barcaldine Hatchery Incubation 1	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,500,000	<Redacted>	<Redacted>
21/03/2019	Barcaldine Hatchery Incubation 3	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,500,000	<Redacted>	<Redacted>



[FOI-19-00976 Information released](#)

XLSX | 14.9 kB

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Another [FOI reply by the Scottish Government in November 2018 \(FOI-18-02912\)](#) redacted information on Scottish Sea Farms in relation to 5.5 million ova imports in 2016.

Date	Site of destination	Operator	Consignee on certificate (if different from operator)	Species	Stage	Number	Source Country	Source Company
04/02/2016	Knock Hatchery	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,100,000	<REDACTED>	<REDACTED>
10/02/2016	Couldoran Incubation Unit	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	150,000	<REDACTED>	<REDACTED>
17/11/2016	Couldoran Incubation Unit	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,000,000	Norway	<REDACTED>
18/02/2016	<REDACTED>	<REDACTED>	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	2,100,000	<REDACTED>	<REDACTED>
03/03/2016	<REDACTED>	<REDACTED>	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	144,000	<REDACTED>	<REDACTED>
08/12/2016	<REDACTED>	<REDACTED>	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	988,000	<REDACTED>	<REDACTED>

This week, Scottish Salmon Watch filed a new FOI with the Scottish Government relating to all ova imports during 2019 and in 2016 [3]. Scottish Salmon Watch will also be filing a FOI with the Irish Government in relation to ova exports to Scotland and disease risks.

Contact:

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

Timeline:

[FOI/19/00976](#) published online by the Scottish Government on 7 May 2019 revealed that 93.2 million ova have been imported by salmon farmers in Scotland since 1 January 2018 with 65.8 million imported during 2018 and 27.4 million imported in 2019 (data up to 2 April 2019). Here's the top twenty imports - with Marine Harvest Norway ([re-named Mowi on 1 January 2019](#)) responsible for the seven largest consignments (thanks to the Scottish Information Commissioner [we can now fill in the redacted blanks via the appeal of FOI-18-01553](#)):

Date consignment due	Destination site name	Destination business name	Consignee Business name (if different from destination business)	Species	Stage	Number in consignment	Source Country	Import consignor
16/05/2018	Lochalort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	3,800,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
18/04/2018	Lochalort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	3,500,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
04/01/2018	Inverpolly	Finfish Ltd	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd	Salmon	Ova	2,600,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
15/11/2018	Lochalort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	2,500,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
06/12/2018	Cairndow Hatchery	Lakeland (Cairndow) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	2,500,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
08/02/2018	Inchmore	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	2,300,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
04/04/2018	Inverpolly	Finfish Ltd		Salmon	Ova	2,300,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
27/11/2018	Ormsary Hatchery	Landcatch Natural Selection Ltd		Salmon	Ova	2,197,000	Norway	AS Bolaks
08/11/2018	Couldoran Incubation Unit	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	2,150,000	<Redacted>	<Redacted>
16/01/2018	Mill Burn (Old Mill)	Kintail Hatchery	Migdale Smolts Ltd	Salmon	Ova	2,000,000	Norway	Salmobreed
16/01/2019	Mill Burn (Old Mill)	Kintail Hatchery	Migdale Smolt Ltd	Salmon	Ova	2,000,000	Norway	Grieg Seafood Rogaland
14/06/2018	Inchmore	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,900,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
14/06/2018	Inchmore	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,900,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
03/10/2018	Girlsta Hatchery	Grieg Seafood Shetland Ltd (Hatchery)		Salmon	Ova	1,890,000	Iceland	Stofniskur Hf.
07/02/2018	Lochalort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,884,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
20/03/2018	Cairndow Hatchery	Lakeland (Cairndow) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,800,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
20/02/2019	Girlsta Hatchery	Grieg Seafood Shetland Ltd (Hatchery)		Salmon	Ova	1,800,000	Norway	Grieg Seafood Rogaland
28/03/2019	Cairndow Hatchery	Lakeland (Cairndow) Ltd	Cooke Aquaculture Scotland Ltd	Salmon	Ova	1,800,000	Iceland	Stofniskur Hf.
15/02/2018	Couldoran Incubation Unit	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,600,000	<Redacted>	<Redacted>
04/02/2019	Lochalort Recirculation Hatchery	Mowi Scotland Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,563,000	Norway	MOWI Norway

A [letter sent to Scottish Ministers in April 2019](#) called for increased surveillance of ova, smolts and farmed salmon for infectious diseases, pathogens, bacteria, parasites and viruses. In a [FOI reply dated 6 March 2019 \(FOI/19/00420\)](#), the Scottish Government admitted that "there is no statutory sampling conducted with respect to ova and smolts prior to their entry into sea water, either in relation to imported or domestically produced animals".



In March and April 2019, Scottish Salmon Watch [published damning details](#) of infectious diseases, pathogens, viruses and parasites at salmon farms operated by [Mowi \(formerly Marine Harvest\)](#), [The Scottish Salmon Company](#), [Scottish Sea Farms](#), [Cooke Aquaculture](#), [Grieg Seafood](#), [Loch Duart](#) and [Wester Ross Fisheries](#) inspected by the Scottish Government's [Fish Health Inspectorate during 2018](#).

In February 2019, The Ferret [revealed Scottish Sea Farms imported ova from AquaGen in Norway in November 2018 despite fears over the deadly virus Infectious Salmon Anaemia](#).



Read more via [Game Ova for Scottish Salmon - Deadly disease delays egg imports from AquaGen in Norway](#) and [FOI-18-03773](#)

An inspection of [AquaGen's Hollywood Salmon Farm](#) in November 2018 ([owned by Scottish Sea Farms up until September 2018](#)) by the Scottish Government's Fisheries Health Inspectorate [reported](#) that: "The biosecurity measures plan for the site was inspected and found to be inadequately maintained".



Insider [reported in March 2019](#) that AquaGen had bought the Holywood Salmon Farm off Scottish Sea Farms and were planning an annual production of 50 million ova:

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f t in Q

Norwegian firm buys Dumfries-shire fish hatchery to put selective breeding science into practice

AquaGen says new approach will breed stronger, healthier fish and result in better product

SHARE     

By Hamish Burns
00:00, 1 MAR 2019

NEWS



Andrew Reeve of AquaGen Scotland with Ralph Bickerdike of Scottish Sea Farms

Fergus Ewing, Cabinet Secretary for the Rural Economy, said: “AquaGen’s investment speaks volumes of the confidence from the sector of doing business in Scotland and supports the aims of Scotland’s 10-year Farmed Fish Health Framework, helping to improve the security of Scotland’s ova supply.”

AquaGen AS chief executive Officer Nina Santi said: “We are committed to providing our customers in Scotland with a secure supply of eggs and this latest investment opens up the possibility of us supplying these eggs from locally grown broodstock.

“We’re planning a series of upgrades to the existing facilities at Holywood, using Scottish suppliers as much as possible, then we will go into full production later this year. Deliveries will be from November to June initially. Longer-term we hope to extend to year-round production of up to 50 million eggs annually.”

In December 2018, [The Seattle Times reported](#) that Cooke Aquaculture were forced to destroy 800,000 juvenile Atlantic salmon after testing required by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife determined the fish were infected with an exotic strain of Piscine Orthoreovirus (PRV). [Salmon Business reported](#) that the Icelandic company StofnFiskur – a subsidiary of [Norwegian-controlled Benchmark Genetics](#) – supplied the ova to Cooke Aquaculture. Scottish Salmon Watch [revealed in June 2019](#) that over half the

farmed salmon from Scotland (and other unnamed countries) tested in 2018 and 2019 by Marine Scotland Science were positive for PRV.

In November 2018, [The Oban Times reported](#) that 2.5 million ova will be imported from AquaGen in Norway to the Barcaldine Hatchery operated by Scottish Sea Farms:

The Oban Times

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Minister visits new £48m freshwater salmon hatchery



In October 2018, Scottish Salmon Watch [revealed](#) that the Scottish Government had refused to name the country and company from which Scottish Sea Farms sourced ova. Disclosure would "cause substantial harm to their commercial interests" and would "give competitors an advantage by revealing company or industrial commercial strategy" [claimed the Scottish Government in a FOI refusal letter dated 19 September 2018](#).

In August 2018, it was revealed that lawyers acting for Scottish Sea Farms (and The Scottish Salmon Company) had [threatened legal action](#) to prevent the disclosure of [damning photos of disease-ridden Scottish salmon](#).

In June 2018, Scottish Sea Farms ([a subsidiary of the Norwegian company Norskott Havbruk AS - owned jointly by the Norwegian companies Leroy and SalMar](#)) raised an objection to

disclosure due "to the confidentiality of commercial or industrial information where such confidentiality is provided by law to protect a legitimate economic interest":

From: [Redacted]@scottishseafarms.com
Sent: 12 June 2018 10:02
To: [Redacted] (MARLAB)
Subject: RE: Request for information under the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004
Importance: High

Dear [Redacted],

Thank you for informing us of the request under the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (EIRs) for information on imports of Atlantic salmon ova into Scotland during 2017 and 2018. Whilst we understand that this consultation is a courtesy, not a statutory obligation, we wish to raise our objection to the release of specific categories of under 12. — (5) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(a), a public authority may refuse to disclose information to the extent that its disclosure would adversely affect - (e) the confidentiality of commercial or industrial information where such confidentiality is provided by law to protect a legitimate economic interest. [Redacted]

[redacted]

Should you require clarification on any of the above please don't hesitate to contact me, and I would appreciate to be informed as to the outcome of your decision.

Best regards,

[Redacted]

[redacted]

In May 2018, Scottish Salmon Watch [revealed](#) that the Norwegian Government had banned imports of salmon ova from Scotland citing unacceptable disease risks. A front page article in The National newspaper [reported](#):



In July 2017, [Hendrix Genetics \(owners of Landcatch\)](#) asked the [Scottish Government](#) "if the ISA outbreaks in Norway, in particular AquaGen, would have any effect on their ability to export eggs into Scotland".

[Norwegian-owned Scottish Sea Farms](#) is the [exclusive supplier for fake brand 'Lochmuir'](#) sold by Marks & Spencer and [certified as 'welfare friendly' by RSPCA Assured](#).



Read more background via:

[Mail On Sunday: "90% of Scottish salmon 'ISN'T' from Scotland' - 66m eggs shipped in from abroad"](#)

[Scottish salmon not Scottish, campaigners claim](#)

[Salmon Eggsclusive: Scotland's 'King of Fish' is Now Viking Not Scottish!](#)

[Easter Egg Ban for 'Scottish' Salmon?](#)

[Deadly virus outbreak prompted fears over import of fish farm eggs to Scotland](#)

[Game Ova for Scottish Salmon - Deadly disease delays egg imports from AquaGen in Norway](#)

[Concerns raised over Scottish salmon roe imports](#)

['Secret' Scottish Salmon - Norwegian-owned Scottish Sea Farms refuse to disclose information for ova imports as it would "cause substantial harm to their commercial interests"](#)

[Government 'failing to protect Scottish salmon'](#)

[Complete Mockery of the Brand 'Scottish Salmon': Norway bans import of Scottish salmon eggs citing disease risks & genetic impacts under the Nature Diversity Act](#)

[Imported eggs ruling 'makes a mockery of Scottish salmon'](#)

[Norway keeps ban on import of Scottish roe](#)

[Tartan imposters' charge as fish egg imports hit 90%](#)

[Invasion of the Viking salmon](#)

[Fish farms are 'wiping out Scotland's wild salmon'](#)

[Escaped farmed salmon impacts](#)

['Norwegian' genes found in wild salmon populations in Wester Ross](#)

Read more background on FOI victories on the salmon farming front via:



[Victory for Freedom of Information](#)

[FOI Number Five – getting you the information they don't want you to see!](#)

[S&TCS FOI Requests: Scottish Government still not responding lawfully](#)

[EXPOSED: Photo Disclosures Opens Floodgates to More Diseased & Deformed Scottish Salmon](#)

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



Notes to Editors:

[1]

From: <Neil.Purvis@gov.scot>
Date: Mon, Dec 16, 2019 at 11:31 AM
Subject: Response to Decision 160/2019 - FoI/18/01553
To: <salmonfarmingkills@gmail.com>

Dear Don

Following the Scottish Information Commission's Decision 160/2019, please find the attached response.

Regards,

Neil

Neil Purvis

Marine Scotland – Science

Scottish Government | Marine Laboratory, PO Box 101 | 375, Victoria Road | Aberdeen AB11 9DB

Tel: +44 (0)131 244 3287

S/B: +44 (0)131 244 2500

Mob:+44 (0)777 5818 281

Fax: +44 (0)1224 295620

e: neil.purvis@gov.scot

w: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/marinescotland>

[Fol-18-01553 - Response following appeal.docx \(95K\)](#)

[Copy of Salmon ova imports 2017 2018 data for... \(18K\)](#)

T: +44 (0)131 244 2500 F: +44 (0)1224 295511
marinescotland@gov.scot

Don Staniford by email

Our ref: Fol/18/01553 / Decision 160/2019

16 December 2019

Dear Mr Staniford

Following the Scottish Information Commissioner's Decision 160/2019 in relation to your request for data on salmon ova imports during 2017 and 2018 (Fol/18/01553), please find attached the relevant material which is in full compliance with the Decision.

Should you require any further information then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Neil Purvis

Date	Site of destination	Operator	Consignee on certificate (if different from operator)	Species	Stage	Number	Source Country	Source Company
04/01/2017	Temperate Facilities	University of Stirling		Salmon	Ova	24,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
11/01/2017	Tullich Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	1,176,000	Iceland	Stofniskur
11/01/2017	Kinlochmoidart Hatchery	Sunbeam Aquaculture	The Scottish Salmon Company	Salmon	Ova	785,250	Norway	AquaGen AS
10/01/2017	Inverpoll	Finfish Ltd		Salmon	Ova	2,450,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
18/01/2017	Mill Burn (Old Mill)	Kintail Hatchery	Migdale Smolts Ltd	Salmon	Ova	2,000,000	Norway	AquaGen AS
18/01/2017	Knock Hatchery	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,500,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland
25/01/2017	Lochalort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	156,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
01/02/2017	Mingary Hatchery	Hebridean Smolts Ltd	The Scottish Salmon Company	Salmon	Ova	525,000	Norway	AquaGen AS
09/02/2017	Couldoran Incubation Unit	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,500,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland
09/02/2017	Ailt Mor	JS Salmon Ltd	Kames Fish Farming Ltd	Salmon	Ova	350,000	Norway	AquaGen AS
09/02/2017	Wester Fearn	Highland Salmon Company Ltd	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	400,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland
15/02/2017	Geocrab Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	876,000	Iceland	Stofniskur
16/02/2017	Duartmore Hatchery	Loch Duart		Salmon	Ova	330,000	Norway	AquaGen AS
16/02/2017	Ardtaraig Hatchery	Cooke Aquaculture (Freshwater) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	400,000	Norway	AquaGen AS
16/02/2017	Kinlochmoidart Hatchery	Sunbeam Aquaculture	The Scottish Salmon Company	Salmon	Ova	562,500	Norway	AquaGen AS
16/02/2017	Lochalort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	4,000,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
16/02/2017	Cairndow Hatchery	Lakeland (Cairndow) Ltd	Cooke Aquaculture Freshwater Ltd	Salmon	Ova	1,400,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland
23/02/2017	Ormsary Hatchery	Landcatch Natural Selection Ltd	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	2,200,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland
01/03/2017	Geocrab Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	396,000	Norway	AquaGen AS
23/02/2017	Geocrab Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	55,000	Iceland	Stofniskur
14/02/2017	Graham Kerr Building	Glasgow University		Salmon	Ova	1,500	Rep of Ireland	Marine Institute
14/02/2017	Graham Kerr Building	Glasgow University		Salmon	Ova	1,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Institute
14/02/2017	Graham Kerr Building	Glasgow University		Salmon	Ova	500	Rep of Ireland	Marine Institute
09/03/2017	Rysa Incubation Unit	Rysa Salmon Farm	Cooke Aquaculture Freshwater Ltd	Salmon	Ova	170,000	Norway	AquaGen AS
14/03/2017	Girista Hatchery	Grieg Seafood Shetland Ltd (Hatchery)		Salmon	Ova	1,700,000	Norway	Salmobreed

29/03/2017	Lochalort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	2,664,900	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
29/03/2017	Lochalort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,285,100	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
22/03/2017	Inverpoll	Finfish Ltd		Salmon	Ova	3,150,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
04/04/2017	Furnace Hatchery	Cooke Aquaculture (Freshwater) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,000,000	Iceland	Stofniskur
25/05/2017	Girista Hatchery	Grieg Seafood Shetland Ltd (Hatchery)		Salmon	Ova	1,700,000	Norway	Salmobreed
08/06/2017	Girista Hatchery	Grieg Seafood Shetland Ltd (Hatchery)		Salmon	Ova	1,700,000	Norway	Salmobreed
13/06/2017	Lochalort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,506,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
13/06/2017	Lochalort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	2,494,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
23/08/2017	Inst of Medical Sciences	University of Aberdeen		Salmon	Ova	3,000	Iceland	Stofniskur
04/10/2017	Girista Hatchery	Grieg Seafood Shetland Ltd (Hatchery)		Salmon	Ova	1,500,000	Iceland	Stofniskur
08/11/2017	Cairndow Hatchery	Lakeland (Cairndow) Ltd	Cooke Aquaculture Freshwater Ltd	Salmon	Ova	2,500,000	Iceland	Stofniskur
09/11/2017	Tullich Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	2,714,250	Iceland	Stofniskur
22/11/2017	Kinlochmoidart Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	1,522,500	Iceland	Stofniskur
07/11/2017	Couldoran Incubation Unit	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	745,000	Iceland	Stofniskur
13/11/2017	Ailt Mor	JS Salmon Ltd		Salmon	Ova	400,000	Norway	Salmobreed
15/11/2017	Barvas Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	172,000	Iceland	Stofniskur
15/11/2017	Mingary Hatchery	Hebridean Smolts Ltd	The Scottish Salmon Company	Salmon	Ova	918,750	Iceland	Stofniskur
16/11/2017	Lochalort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	3,600,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
30/11/2017	Ormsary Hatchery	Landcatch Natural Selection Ltd	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	400,000	Iceland	Stofniskur
08/12/2017	Ormsary Hatchery	Landcatch Natural Selection Ltd	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	300,000	Iceland	Stofniskur
14/12/2017	Wester Fearn	Highland Salmon Company Ltd		Salmon	Ova	800,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
20/12/2017	Inchmore	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,950,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
20/12/2017	Inchmore	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,950,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
04/01/2018	Inverpoll	Finfish Ltd		Salmon	Ova	2,600,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
09/01/2018	Ailt Mor	JS Salmon Ltd		Salmon	Ova	325,000	Norway	Salmobreed
11/01/2018	Inverpoll	Finfish Ltd		Salmon	Ova	87,639	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
16/01/2018	Mill Burn (Old Mill)	Kintail Hatchery		Salmon	Ova	2,000,000	Norway	Salmobreed
18/01/2018	Knock	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,550,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland
01/02/2018	Tullich Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	1,360,000	Iceland	Stofniskur
30/01/2018	Barvas Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	1,047,500	Norway	Salmobreed
30/01/2018	Amhuinnsuidhe Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	400,000	Norway	Salmobreed
30/01/2018	Mingary Hatchery	Hebridean Smolts Ltd		Salmon	Ova	656,250	Norway	Salmobreed
31/01/2018	Lochalort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	216,592	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
07/02/2018	Girista Hatchery	Grieg Seafood Shetland Ltd (Hatchery)		Salmon	Ova	1,545,000	Norway	Salmobreed
07/02/2018	Ormsary Hatchery	Landcatch Natural Selection Ltd	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	1,500,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland
14/02/2018	Wester Fearn	Highland Salmon Company Ltd	Cooke Aquaculture Freshwater Ltd	Salmon	Ova	700,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland
07/02/2018	Lochalort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,884,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
08/02/2018	Inchmore	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	2,300,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
15/02/2018	Couldoran Incubation Unit	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,600,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland
21/02/2018	Cairndow Hatchery	Lakeland (Cairndow) Ltd	Cooke Aquaculture Freshwater Ltd	Salmon	Ova	1,100,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland
01/03/2018	Kinlochmoidart Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	615,000	Iceland	Stofniskur
20/02/2018	Niall Bromage Freshwater Field S	University of Stirling		Salmon	Ova	40,000	Norway	Salmobreed
20/02/2018	Ailt Mor	JS Salmon Ltd	Kames Fish Farming Ltd	Salmon	Ova	285,000	Norway	Salmobreed
01/03/2018	Ormsary Hatchery	Landcatch Natural Selection Ltd	The Scottish Salmon Company	Salmon	Ova	575,000	Iceland	Stofniskur
27/02/2018	Geocrab Hatchery	The Scottish Salmon Company		Salmon	Ova	508,000	Norway	Salmobreed
27/02/2018	Ardtaraig Hatchery	Cooke Aquaculture (Freshwater) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	350,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
01/03/2018	Ormsary Hatchery	Landcatch Natural Selection Ltd	Scottish Sea Farms Ltd	Salmon	Ova	800,000	Rep of Ireland	Marine Harvest Ireland
20/03/2018	Cairndow Hatchery	Lakeland (Cairndow) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,800,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
04/04/2018	Inverpoll	Finfish Ltd		Salmon	Ova	2,300,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
12/04/2018	The Roslin Institute	the Roslin Institute		Salmon	Ova	3,200	Iceland	Stofniskur
18/04/2018	Lochalort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	3,500,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
16/05/2018	Lochalort Recirculation Hatchery	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	3,800,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
15/05/2018	Inchmore	Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd		Salmon	Ova	1,300,000	Norway	Marine Harvest Norway
08/06/2018	Girista Hatchery	Grieg Seafood Shetland Ltd (Hatchery)		Salmon	Ova	1,500,000	Iceland	Stofniskur

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Information on salmon ova imports in 2017: EIR appeal

Published: **16 Dec 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/18/01553

Date received: 4 Jun 2019

Date responded: 16 Dec 2019

Information requested

Information on salmon ova imports since 1 January 2017, including:

- details of egg import licence documents, any tests for disease, health certificates, emails and any other information related to salmon ova imports since 1 January 2017.
- information on the Norwegian Government's decision to ban the import of salmon eggs from Scotland - including any details of meetings with Hendrix Genetics, Landcatch, the Norwegian Government or any other parties but only since 29 March 2018 (i.e. since FOI/18/01043).
- any reaction by the Scottish Government - including press briefings, Cabinet Briefings and any other email alerts - in relation to last week's publication in the National (31 May 2018) and press release issued by Scottish Salmon Watch (31 May 2018).

Response

Following the Scottish Information Commissioner's Decision 160/2019 in relation to your request for data on salmon ova imports during 2017 and 2018 (Fol/18/01553), please find attached the relevant material which is in full compliance with the Decision.

Published: 16 Dec 2019

Information on salmon ova imports in 2017: EIR appeal

About FOI

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[FOI/18/01553 - Information Released](#)

XLSX | 18.4 kB

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From: **Don Staniford** <salmonfarmingkills@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Dec 16, 2019 at 1:03 PM
Subject: FOI re. ova imports since 8 June 2018 and data for 2016 with SSF included
To: <Neil.Purvis@gov.scot>
Cc: <ceu@scotland.gsi.gov.uk>, <Helen.McGregor@gov.scot>

Many thanks for the information finally disclosed via FOI/18/01553. It is a shame the Scottish Government needed to be forced into disclosing this information by the Scottish Information Commissioner.

Could you please now provide ova import data since the last import detailed in the information disclosed today via FOI/18/01553 (i.e. data since 8 June 2018) including data on Scottish Sea Farms?

This would include updating the data provided in May 2019 via FOI/19/00976 to include the data on Scottish Sea Farms: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/foi-19-00976/>

And bringing the data up to today (16 December 2019).

Could you please also provide full ova import data for 2016 (as previously requested and disclosed except for Scottish Sea Farms via FOI/18/02912:
<https://www.gov.scot/publications/foi-18-02912/>)

Could you please provide information in relation to discussions re. ova imports since 29 March 2018?

This would include discussions with the Norwegian Government, egg companies, salmon farming companies and other parties (effectively an update of FOI/08/01043:
<https://www.gov.scot/publications/foi-18-01043/>)

This would also include any emails, letters, Cabinet Briefings, press updates and other information on ova imports in relation to Scottish Sea Farms, Marine Harvest/Mowi Ireland, the Scottish Information Commissioner, Hendrix, Landcatch, Scottish Ministers and other parties (including any arguments set out by Scottish Sea Farms, lawyers, government officials or other parties in relation to the non-disclosure of ova import data).

This would also include information on any disease risks and biosecurity concerns of ova imports (i.e. an update of FOI-18'03772 filed on 18 December 2018:
<https://www.gov.scot/publications/foi-18-03773/>).

Please consider this a new FOI request under the relevant FOI and Environmental Information Regulations. Please provide this information electronically. Please provide a receipt for this FOI request.

Thanks,

Don Staniford
Director, Scottish Salmon Watch