

Scottish Salmon Watch, 20 July 2021

[Secret Filming Exposes Welfare Abuse at RSPCA Assured Mowi](#)

- Campaigners call for Mowi's RSPCA certification to be rescinded & farms closed down
- Supermarkets challenged to stop selling RSPCA Assured Scottish salmon



Campaigners are calling for Mowi's lice-infested salmon farms to be closed down and RSPCA certification rescinded immediately following [shocking video evidence of welfare abuse at four salmon farms secretly filmed at the weekend](#) (16/17 July). Scottish Salmon Watch [filed a welfare complaint yesterday](#) (19 July) with the Animal & Plant Health Agency, the Scottish Government and Police Scotland's Wildlife Crime Unit.



Video footage shows dead farmed salmon and lumpsuckers ('cleaner fish') floating on the surface of cages; lice-infested farmed salmon swimming in a shoal of wild fish (believed to be herring) inside a cage; lice-infested 'cleaner fish' and clear evidence of "unnecessary suffering" - a breach of [Section 19 of the Animal Health and Welfare \(Scotland\) Act 2006](#).



Watch a summary of the video footage shot on four RSPCA Assured Mowi salmon farms:



John Robins of the charity [Animal Concern](#) said:

“Once again Scottish Salmon Watch have obtained evidence of severe suffering caused to fish on foreign owned salmon farms in Scotland. Since the welfare of farmed fish was recognised in the Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006 I have been trying unsuccessfully to have that legislation used to stop this suffering. What is happening on salmon farms is not just cruel, it is a criminal offence.”

“For well over ten years I have been asking the RSPCA to stop linking their once good name to these filthy floating factory farms where fish die a cruel slow death from disease and being eaten alive by parasites while swimming in water clouded by their own faeces. It is not enough that the public stop buying this cruel product, it is time to take those responsible for this suffering before a court of law.”

“If this happened in any other kind of livestock farming there would be a public outcry and the farms closed down. Instead of promoting this sick industry our politicians should immediately stop all expansion plans and try to sort out the welfare and environmental disaster they have allowed to spread like an oil slick from the Clyde Estuary to Shetland.”

Andrew Holder of [Dip in the Blue](#) said:

"Scottish salmon farming is a horror story. The gruesome video footage shot inside salmon farms keeps on getting even more hideous. When will the RSPCA stop condoning the torture of millions of farmed salmon in Scotland, by allowing it to be labeled as RSPCA Assured?"

Maggie Brotherston of [Friends of Loch Creran](#) said:

"In view of this shocking video footage it is not surprising that salmon farmers are resorting to threatening behaviour to keep the public away from their disease-ridden cages. Secret filming is vital to exposing welfare abuse on salmon farms. Undercover investigators are doing a remarkable job ground-truthing the blatant greenwashing via RSPCA Assured."

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

“The Scottish Government should immediately close down Mowi’s disease-ridden farms and supermarkets should stop selling RSPCA Assured Scottish salmon. The RSPCA’s stamp of approval is now synonymous with welfare abuse. Shame on RSPCA Assured for endorsing lice-infestation, mass mortalities, infectious diseases and unnecessary suffering.”

“The Go Pro camera never lies – unlike salmon farmers. When will the public wake up to the deceptive marketing and glossy greenwashing behind the toxic salmon farming industry? Mowi has been exposed by secret filming as concealing cruelty to the ‘King of Fish’ – a sentient animal capable of feeling pain. Salmon farming has turned *Salmo salar* (meaning ‘the leaper’ in Latin) into a leper. Consumers should avoid Scottish salmon like the proverbial plague. Please take the pledge to boycott farmed salmon.”

Here's photos of inside Mowi salmon farms taken by Scottish Salmon Watch on 16 & 17 July 2021:



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[Welfare Complaint Filed Vs Mowi's RSPCA Assured "Responsibly Sourced" Scottish Salmon Video/Photo Exclusive: Mowi's RSPCA Assured Welfare Nightmare - complaints filed for breaches of welfare laws](#)

[RSPCA Sponsored Welfare Abuse of Salmon Farms - A Guide to Getting Away with Mass Murder \(Theriodicide\)!](#)

[Secret Filming Exposes RSPCA 'Abused' Scottish Salmon - Welfare Complaint Filed Against M&S Supplier Scottish Sea Farms](#)

[Video Scoop: RSPCA Assured Diseased Salmon from M&S](#)

[Secret Filming Exposes RSPCA 'Abused' Scottish Salmon - Welfare Complaint Filed Against M&S Supplier Scottish Sea Farms](#)

[Letter to Secretary of State re. Welfare Abuse at Scottish Salmon Farms](#)

[Whitewashing Welfare Abuse of Scottish Salmon \(as sponsored via RSPCA, SSPCA & APHA\)](#)

[Media Backgrounder: The Welfare Nightmare of Scottish Salmon \(Updated\)](#)

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Don Staniford
@TheGAAIA



Thanks to the Co-op for suspending sales of @rspcaassured Mowi salmon @MowiScotlandLtd twitter.com/coopuk/status/... and twitter.com/coopuk/status/... @coopuk
Why are you selling lice-infested salmon? @sainsburys @LidlGB @AldiUK @Tesco @Morrisons @asda @waitrose @marksandspencer



Co-op @coopuk · 17h



Replying to @TheGAAIA

2/2 welfare practices for animals within our supply chain and in light of the seriousness of the allegations, supply has been suspended pending the outcome of an investigation. ^Lav



Co-op @coopuk · 17h



Replying to @TheGAAIA

1/2 Fish welfare is a priority for Co-op and we only take salmon from approved suppliers who meet strict welfare standards. We do not tolerate unacceptable



Don Staniford
@TheGAAIA



Scottish Salmon Watch just filed an official welfare complaint against Mowi's RSPCA Assured Scottish salmon @rspcaassured @MowiScotlandLtd @APHAgovuk @marinescotland tinyurl.com/jty8sd9y
Please stop supporting welfare abuse on Scottish salmon farms @sainsburys @LidlGB @AldiUK



Scottish Salmon Producers Organisation and 9 others

11:00 AM · Jul 19, 2021 · Twitter Web App



Don Staniford
@TheGAAIA



Video Exclusive: Lice-infested [@rspcaassured](#) salmon swimming with a shoal of wild fish inside a fish farm!
vimeo.com/576442385 [@MowiScotlandLtd](#)
[#Boycott](#) [#Scottish](#) [#Salmon](#) [@SSPOsays](#) [@sainsburys](#)
[@LidlGB](#) [@AldiUK](#) [@Tesco](#) [@coopuk](#) [@asda](#)



9:34 PM · Jul 18, 2021 · Twitter Web App



Don Staniford
@TheGAAIA



Lousy Scottish Salmon - fresh from the loch!
This fine specimen is certified as 'welfare friendly' via
[@rspcaassured](#) & is brought to customers [@sainsburys](#)
[@LidlGB](#) & [@AldiUK](#) by [@MowiScotlandLtd](#)
[@SSPOsays](#)
Welfare complaint to be filed [@marinescotland](#)
[@APHAgovuk](#) & [@policescotland](#)



Tavish Scott and 8 others

4:05 PM · Jul 18, 2021 · Twitter Web App



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RSPCA Assured Scottish Salmon is Dead in the Water!

@rspcaassured @MowiScotlandLtd @SSPOsays
@sainsburys @AldiUK @LidlGB @marinescotland
@ChrisGPackham @brianblessed @BillOddie
@PeterEgan6 @CarolineLucas @PETAUK @philip_ciwf
@coopuk @Tesco @asda @Morrisons @waitrose



Mairi Gougeon and 9 others

8:08 AM · Jul 19, 2021 · Twitter Web App



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Frankenfish Alert - be scared, be very very scared of
@rspcaassured Scottish salmon! @MowiScotlandLtd
Watch the video horror show via vimeo.com/576442385 and vimeo.com/576141404
@ciwf @onekindtweet @vivacampaigns @PETAUK
@ScotLINK @Animallawyersuk @HSIGlobal @scotgpp



Marine Scotland and 9 others

9:20 AM · Jul 19, 2021 · Twitter Web App



Don Staniford
@TheGAAIA



Video footage shot last night from inside a Mowi salmon farm - lice-infested & swimming in a school of wild fish trapped inside the cage! But don't worry it's certified as "welfare friendly" [@rspcaassured](#) & sold as "responsibly sourced" [@sainsburys](#) [@LidlGB](#) [@AldiUK](#) [@ASC_aqua](#)



Scottish Salmon Producers Organisation and 9 others

9:36 AM · Jul 18, 2021 · Twitter Web App



Don Staniford
@TheGAAIA



Breaking News: Here's a lice-infested salmon swimming inside a feedlot in Scotland (video footage shot last night). Which [@rspcaassured](#) salmon farm is it? [@SSPOsays](#) [@ptfss](#) [@tavishscott](#) [@sainsburys](#) [@LidlGB](#) [@AldiUK](#) [@MowiScotlandLtd](#) [@scotseafarms](#) [@GriegShetland](#) [@salmon_scottish](#)



Hamish Macdonell and 9 others

11:58 AM · Jul 17, 2021 · Twitter Web App