

Press Update – 17 December 2012

“Boycott Urged”/“Gathering Ireland”/“Senseless Destruction”/“AGD Alert”/“Sea of Protest”/“Filthy Fish Farms OUT!” – [online here](#)

Please find enclosed a press update (articles in full as PDF [online via here](#)) including:

[“Impacts of open pen salmon feedlots”](#) (Legacy, January 2013)

[“Sea of protest urges Coveney to prevent fish farm plans”](#) (The Irish Examiner, 17 December)

[“Coveney urged to stop giant salmon farms”](#) (The Irish Times, 17 December)



[“Protest March to Carrigaline”](#) (Salmon Farm Protest Carrigaline, 17 December)

[“Boycott smoked farmed salmon this Christmas and give the environment a Christmas present”](#) (Wild Fish, 17 December)

[“Fish Farms: Nothing But a Dirty Industry”](#) (GAAIA, 17 December)



[“Fish farms ‘pose threat’ to wild salmon stocks”](#) (The Sunday Times Ireland, 16 December)



[“Anti Salmon Farm Speakers in Carrigaline”](#) (You Tube, 15 December)

[“Company seeking fish farm expansion exceeds sea lice levels”](#) (Irish Examiner, 15 December)

[“Farmed Salmon: Let’s Stop This Senseless Destruction”](#) (Salmon Farms Ireland, 14 December)



[“Gathering Ireland Against Salmon Farming”](#) (Green Around the Gills, 14 December)

[“Anti-Fish Farm Groups Rally”](#) (Cork News, 14 December)

[“Coveney Under the Cosh”](#) (Fish News EU, 14 December)

[“Canadian Food Inspection Agency tangles with P.E.I. fish scientist”](#) (Toronto Star, 14 December)

[“Call to boycott salmon farms ‘sabotage’”](#) (Irish Examiner, 14 December)

[“IFA Aquaculture Dismisses Call for Boycott on Smoked Salmon”](#) (The Fish Site, 14 December)



[“Listeria contamination: Ocean Beauty recalls 2 types of smoked salmon”](#) (Wall Street Journal/Associated Press, 14 December)

[“Increased use of therapeutants in Chile”](#) (Fish Farming Xpert, 14 December)

[“B.C. companies vying for certification first”](#) (Fish Farming Xpert, 14 December)

[“Salmon boycott urged by fish farm opponents”](#) (Irish Examiner, 13 December)

[“Group launches farmed smoked salmon boycott – farmers condemn NGO’s plans to boycott smoked salmon over Christmas”](#) (Intrafish, 13 December)

[“Message to Norwegian Embassy in Dublin: Fish Farms Out!”](#) (GAAIA, 13 December)



[“Welby seeks independent enquiry into fish farm proposals”](#) (Galway Advertiser, 13 December)

[“Norway: AGD alert at salmon farms – vets warn of cases of Amoebic Gill Disease at Norwegian salmon farms”](#) (Intrafish, 13 December)

[“New pest attacks salmon”](#) (Views & News from Norway, 13 December)

[“Salmon farming has a strong 'hypothetical potential' to grow”](#) (FIS, 13 December)

[“Norway: Continued Work for Farmed Salmon Branding System”](#) (The Fish Site, 13 December)

[“Norway: Ownership ceiling of salmon firms to be modified”](#) (FIS, 13 December)

[“Monopolisation moves closer in Norwegian farms/Norwegian Government allows more than 25% ownership”](#) (Fish News EU/Marine Harvest, 12 December)

[“Fisheries Forum Lambasts Minister Over Galway Bay Fish Farm Decision Process”](#) (Afloat, 12 December)

[“Irish Wildlife Trust Objects to Galway Bay Fish Farm”](#) (Galway Bay FM, 12 December)

[“Salmon Boycott Launched”](#) (Fish News EU, 12 December)

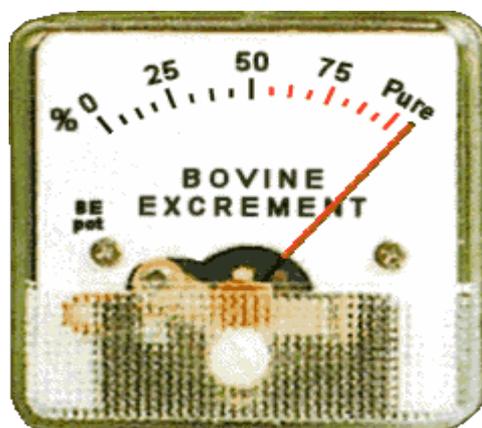
[“Giant rainbow trout farm poses threat to marine environment in Loch Etive”](#) (For Argyll, 12 December)

[“US cruise giant switches from Norwegian to Chilean salmon”](#) (Undercurrent News, 12 December)

[“Research grant for salmon disease project”](#) (World Fishing & Aquaculture, 12 December)

[“Chilean Salmon Company Achieves Three-Star BAP Certification”](#) (Global Aquaculture Alliance, 12 December)

[“Australian salmon farmer gains BAP certification”](#) (Undercurrent News, 12 December)



[“Teen presents salmon farm petition”](#) (Marlborough Express, 12 December)

[“Online petition against salmon farm questioned”](#) (Radio New Zealand, 12 December)

[“Green MP Steffan Browning is incorrect - NZ King Salmon”](#) (Voxy, 12 December)

[“Waldorf Astoria replaces wild salmon with new premium farmed brand”](#) (Intrafish, 12 December)

[“EPA should consider public opposition to polluting salmon farm extension”](#) (Green Party New Zealand, 11 December)

[“Salmon farmers help fill Campbell River food bank shelves”](#) (Campbell River Mirror, 11 December)

[“Misconceptions about farmed fish”](#) (Napa Valley Register, 11 December)

[“Opposition mounts to super-sized fish farm in Galway Bay”](#) (Fish Farming Xpert, 11 December)

[““Nature has struck back and said "No More!" - Noel Carr on Salmon Farms”](#) (GAAIA, 10 December)



[“N. Ireland Anglers Wants Filthy Fish Farms OUT!”](#) (GAAIA, 10 December)

[“Biggest enemy to the future of fish farming is itself”](#) (Outer Hebrides Against Fish Farms, 8 December)

[“Fact dodging not good enough, SSC”](#) (Outer Hebrides Against Fish Farms, 8 December)

[“High abundances of sea lice in Melinka”](#) (Fish Farming Xpert, 7 December)

[“Chile salmon farmers ‘losing close to \\$1.50’ a kilo”](#) (Undercurrent News, 7 December)

[“Salmon farming can create jobs and protect environment”](#) (Irish Examiner, 7 December)

[“Say no to organic salmon farming”](#) (Irish Examiner, 5 December)

[“Galway fish farm plan on schedule despite ‘campaign of dreadful information’ - BIM”](#) (Inshore Ireland, December)

[“Fish Farm Campaigner Questioned”](#) (COAST, December)

[“Scottish Salmon Company asked to ‘come clean’”](#) (Stornoway Gazette, 30 November)

[“Like it or not, fish farming is here to stay”](#) (West Highland Free Press, 30 November)

[“Debate over Infectious Salmon Anaemia Virus in Wild Fish”](#) (CABI, 30 November)



[“The struggles facing the fish farming industry”](#) (Scotland on Sunday, 18 November)

[“Retailers Taking Action on Farmed Salmon”](#) (Farmed & Dangerous, Fall 2012)

Including from the [Cork News](#) (14 December) reporting on growing opposition in Ireland:

“A protest at the Cork office of the Minister for Agriculture, Food and Rural Development will take place tomorrow, Saturday. A number of anti-fish farm groups will march to Minister Simon Coveney’s Carrigaline constituency office as part of the demonstration. They include No Salmon Farms At Sea (NSFAS), the Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers (FISSTA), Save Bantry Bay, Save Galway Bay and Friends of the Irish Environment.



The protest comes as the organisations object to fish farming operations across the country, including the €3.5m plan by Marine Harvest to expand its salmon farming operations off Bantry Bay. The NSFAS stated that the wild Atlantic salmon is “now under serious threat” and in recent years, stocks have become critically low. “To the extent that many rivers in Ireland have been closed to angling,” said the group. “Now, one of the greatest threats to this species is the government backed proposal to dramatically develop the salmon farming industry around our coastline.”

From [The Irish Times](#) (17 December):

“Anglers and environmentalists have called on the Minister for the Marine Simon Coveney to intervene to prevent the establishment of a number of major salmon farm projects at various locations off the Irish coast. About 200 campaigners from as far away as Donegal, Fermanagh and Galway as well as from Cork, Kerry and Tipperary converged in Carrigaline in Co Cork on Saturday, from where they marched to Mr Coveney’s constituency office and handed in a letter of protest. Mr Coveney was not at the office at the time, but the protesters held a rally where speakers urged him to heed warnings that further salmon farms at sea would lead to an increase in sea lice and damage wild Atlantic salmon stocks.”



More photos [online here](#)

From Dr. Roderick O’Sullivan in the [Irish Examiner](#) (17 December):

“We voice our objections to the building of giant salmon farms killing off more of our wild salmon and sea trout; we also object to the huge volumes of filth and toxic wastes from these farms; we object to the huge volume of insecticides, fungicides, and dangerous chemicals flushed into our shallow bays and estuaries, and, furthermore, we object to the gross exaggeration of 500 jobs to be created.”

More details via “[Dr. O’Sullivan on Salmon Farm Insanity in Galway Bay, Ireland](#)”



From [Afloat](#) (12 December):

“The National Inland Fisheries Forum (NIFF) has criticised as "flawed" the consent process regarding the proposed deep-sea fish farm in Galway Bay which has stirred much controversy in recent weeks....."The forum believes that on the basis of the information supplied, the minister is not in a position to make a positive decision on this application," writes Davis. "To do so would represent a failure to adhere to the precautionary principle" which applies "where there is uncertainty as to the existence or extent of risks".”

From the [Irish Examiner](#) (13 December):

“Shoppers are being encouraged to boycott farmed salmon by Irish anglers, coastal communities, and environmentalists opposed to the further expansion of fish farms around the coast. Campaigners say wild salmon and trout stock are threatened by the salmon farms, that traditional shellfish grounds will suffer, and that seawater will be polluted if the increase in salmon farms goes ahead.

Up to 150 people attended a meeting in West Cork last month aimed at discussing the Government’s plans to promote salmon farming around the coast. Attendees agreed to picket Agriculture Minister Simon Coveney’s constituency office in Carrigaline on Saturday and to ask the public to boycott farmed salmon.”

From Thomas Marshall writing in the [Irish Examiner](#) (5 December):

“This proposal constitutes one of the most egregious environmental threats Ireland has ever faced. The economic and cultural dangers are very significant and if not defeated, will permanently harm the economy, tourism, sporting and the reputation of Ireland for unspoiled natural beauty.”

From Richie Flynn of the Irish Salmon Growers’ Association in the [Irish Examiner](#) (7 December):

“Opposition for opposition’s sake is unbecoming and unfair to the many people who may want to genuinely engage with the industry and put any valid queries to us to develop a better understanding on all sides. The inconvenient truth for those who have an irrational objection to investment and job creation is that salmon farming can provide employment and activity while also protecting the environment and enhancing Ireland’s reputation as a food island abroad.”

From [The Fish Site](#) (14 December):

“IFA Aquaculture Executive Richie Flynn has condemned a call for consumers to boycott smoked salmon for Christmas as an act of sabotage on a vital farming and processing sector for marine communities. Mr Flynn said, "This reckless posturing by Friends of the Irish Environment could undermine what is a quality product at a very important time of the year for sales. People enjoy smoked Irish salmon, especially over Christmas, and they should not be discouraged from buying it because of an ill-thought out and malicious protest."

From the [Irish Examiner](#) (14 December):

“Salmon farming has been a total disaster in other countries,” said Ian Powell of Blackwater Lodge salmon fishery. “This talk about it creating a lot of jobs is a complete load of rubbish. Very few people will be employed in the farms.”



Watch video reports from Ireland & Scotland via:

[“Message to Norwegian Embassy in Dublin: Fish Farms Out!”](#)

[“Nature has struck back and said "No More!" - Noel Carr on Salmon Farms”](#)

From [Views & News from Norway](#) (13 December):

“An amoeba from Tasmania has found its way to fish farms off the southwestern coast of Norway, setting off concerns that it can cause disease and death among salmon like it already has at Irish and Scottish fish farms.

Newspaper *Dagens Næringsliv* (DN) reported last week that the amoeba has shown up at around five fish farms off the coasts of Rogaland and Hordaland counties, where it’s suspected of attacking the gills of salmon and thereby reducing their oxygen intake. The disease was blamed for killing salmon at fish farms in Scotland and Ireland last summer.

The amoeba is believed to have traveled from Tasmanian waters in the ballast tanks of ships. It’s being fought with hydrogen peroxide solutions and fish farmers are preparing for battle. “This is clearly worrisome,” Atle Lillehaug of the state veterinarian institute told DN.”

From Alastair Robertson writing in [Scotland on Sunday](#) (18 November):

“It’s not looking good for fish farming, although, on the Government’s past performance, the industry has a better than average chance of getting away with it. Not only is the industry dealing with a major outbreak of Amoebic Gill Disease (AGD), which has been suffocating thousands of tonnes of farmed salmon all across the West Highlands and the Hebrides, it is now faced with a heavyweight scientific report which says fish farm sea lice are killing wild salmon to a far greater degree than previously believed. But back to AGD, which the industry insists, is caused by a naturally occurring parasite; naturally occurring in the same way TB, cholera and typhus are naturally occurring. They only become a serious problem in densely populated environments. So far the only treatment is disinfection with hydrogen peroxide, better known as a hair dye. Pretty desperate stuff.”



From the [Green Party New Zealand](#) (11 December):

“The EPA Board of Inquiry should listen to the concerns of the 11,000 New Zealanders who have signed this petition opposing the expansion of polluting salmon farms in the iconic Marlborough Sounds,” said Mr Steffan Browning MP. “In addition to these petitioners, two-thirds of submitters, including the Marlborough District Council are opposed to the massive expansion of polluting salmon farms. The likely nutrient pollution of the proposed farms is

equal to that of nearly 60,000 cows. We are looking forward to the decision of the EPA Board of Inquiry, due out soon, to see how that process has worked.”

From the [Toronto Star](#) (14 December) on the ISA scandal in Canada:

“Kibenge accuses the federal government of being unhappy with his results. “It was done to completely cut me out — destroy my reputation,” says Kibenge, referring to the audits as a “hatchet job.” Asked why the government would be trying to discredit him, Kibenge says: “I don’t know, but they are doing it very well.”

“My information here is actually supposed to be helping the industry, the government and the science and everyone, rather than creating problems,” says Kibenge. Kibenge says if the OIE does take its designation away from his lab, then the government will “have succeeded in destroying my professional credibility,” but he says “at the end of the day I think it will be the OIE’s loss because I think I am one of the best in terms of science on ISA virus — that’s undisputed.”

Season’s greetings from the [Association for the Preservation of the Eastern Shore](#):



Season's Greetings
from Coastal Communities of NS

Give the gift
that keeps on giving -
healthy oceans.



The Association for the Protection of the Eastern Shore is asking for a moratorium on all open pen salmon feedlots because they destroy our wild salmon, our lobster fishery, our tourism industry, our wildlife, our way of life!
Please tell your politicians and eat only wild salmon.



www.nsapes.ca

Please support the global campaign against salmon farming – donate online via <http://www.gofundme.com/donstaniford>

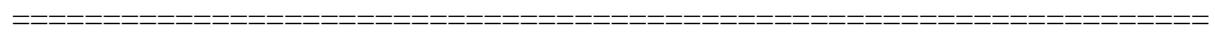


Best fishes and a Merry Fishmas!

Don

Remember: Global News Updates are now archived and available in full [online here](#) (scroll down to the end for a Global News Archive)!

Watch video reports from Scotland and Ireland [online here!](#)



Legacy, January 2013

Legacy - January 2013

December 15, 2012

[jimwilcox](#)

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Legacy - January 2013
Wild Game Fish Conservation International

❖ New east coast ISA outbreak?

December 4, 2012

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has confirmed that they have launched an investigation into a suspected finding of ISA at a commercial aquaculture facility in Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Agency has placed a quarantine on the facility, and is taking samples for further testing, which is being conducted by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) at their national reference laboratory in Moncton, New Brunswick. Results are expected within weeks.

If ISA is confirmed, CFIA says it will take further unnamed disease control actions, if warranted, and notify the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE).

In a formulaic PR missive sent to inquiring media, CFIA says, "At this point, it is too early in the investigation to define the precise measures that would be taken if ISA were confirmed. The response measures taken would depend on a number of factors, including the strain of the virus and biosecurity protocols and procedures at the site location. Any decisions made would be based on sound science."

A reporter from the St. John's Telegram contacted Grey Aquaculture, who denied that the infected fish farm was theirs. Cooke Aquaculture, who is the largest operator of open pen net farms in Newfoundland, referred the reporter to the CFIA.

An outbreak of a virulent strain of ISA at a Cooke facility in Shelburne in early 2012 resulted in the site, featuring a reported 700,000 market-ready salmon, for which company was reimbursed by the government up to \$15 million.

The outbreak also resulted in a quarantine of all fish cage sites in Shelburne Harbour.

Possible ISA infection of wild salmon from farmed salmon in British Columbia has been a topic of great contention since the hearings earlier this year by the Cohen Commission there.

CFIA contends that ISA does not affect human health or food safety, but says that it does pose risks to aquatic animal health and the economy.



Anissa Reed:
"Remember through the holidays as you are surrounded by friends and family that:
FRIENDS DON'T LET FRIENDS EAT PHARMED SALMON"

Click to read

❖ BC Poised to be Designated ISA Virus Positive - CFIA steps in

Dr. Alexandra Morton
November 23, 2012

[Help fund Dr. Morton's research](#)

British Columbia is poised to be designated ISA virus positive. A few weeks ago the Office of International Epizootics, OIE, changed the definition of an ISA virus positive region.

Instead of having to diagnose the disease, today detection of any strain of the virus is enough to designate a region as ISA virus positive. This is the difference between a person being HIV positive, or having AIDS.

This change means a place like BC, could move fast enough to stop a full-blown epidemic. The ISA virus has been detected by the North American OIE reference lab for ISA and two other labs. DFO got positive ISA test results in 2004, but hid them. Now the federal Canadian Food Inspection Agency may be causing a dangerous delay, risking wild salmon of the North Pacific.

The Globe and Mail reports today that the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has written to the Office of International Epizootics (OIE) asking that the **Kibenge Lab** at the Atlantic Veterinary College, PEI be stripped of its standing as one of only 2 ISA virus reference labs. The second lab is with the Norwegian government.

There are 180 comments, over 100 shares and Facebook posts in response to this article! Here is one:

"**Good on you Mr. Kibenge. As a fellow scientist I have witnessed first hand the sweeping to the PC (physical scientist) designation in government.**

It is our responsibility to stand up for the safety and values of Canadians regardless of what the current regimes mandate is."

ISA virus is in the influenza family. If it is in BC it is absolutely essential that it be stopped from spreading, because it appears to be European. This means the wild fish of the North Pacific may not have enough immunity to it.

It was Dr. Kibenge who accurately diagnosed ISA virus for the first time ever in Chile. That virus exploded within weeks of his diagnosis to cause \$2 billion in damages to the Chilean salmon farming industry. Chile, however, had no wild salmon to lose. For BC the stakes are even higher. No one knows what this virus will do to wild Pacific salmon if it is left to spread - NO ONE.

Could the CFIA just be engaging in due diligence? Perhaps, but there are extenuating circumstances.

When the OIE applies their ISA+ designation upgrade to British Columbia by accepting the results from their lab British Columbia's status would have to be altered from ISA-free to ISA+ positive.

The CFIA testified under oath at the Cohen Commission in December 2011 that if the ISA virus is confirmed in BC, BC farm salmon trade could cease. The Provincial Minister of Agriculture echoed this stating in the BC legislature that US and Asian lawmakers were pushing to close their borders to BC farm salmon as a result of the first ISA virus positive test results from Dr. Kibenge's Lab. One has to ask if this is why the CFIA is trying to disconnect Dr. Kibenge's lab from the OIE?

If the CFIA is successful, they will destroy any hope of a fast response. The research will continue, but we will be at the mercy of this virus, giving it the opportunity to do what it does best - **Go Viral!**

The directive to protect wild salmon has to come from us, because there is no one else who can do this. This is a very ominous development.



Read online via: <http://issuu.com/jimwilcox/docs/legacy113>

The Irish Examiner, 17 December 2012

Sea of protest urges Coveney to prevent fish farm plans

By Eddie Cassidy

Salmon and sea trout anglers along with inshore fishermen insist a planned explosion of giant fish farms on the west coast will lead to a senseless destruction of the Irish environment and damage key industries.

It has been claimed that thousands of existing jobs in tourism, angling, and shellfish industries will be wiped out by Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM) proposals to create mega salmon farms off Inis Oírr in the Aran Islands.

More than 200 people from all over Ireland protested on Saturday outside Marine Minister Simon Coveney's constituency office in Carrigaline, Co Cork. Mr Coveney had signalled in advance that he would not be present to receive a petition.

"Our mission," said Glenda Powell from Cork's Blackwater Lodge and salmon fishery, "is to strive to safeguard our wild salmon and sea trout, their marine habitat, and inland waterways.

"If the massive salmon farms are granted, it will probably lead to the extinction of many native species on all of our rivers and lakes. Why can the Government not see the need to

protect what we already have — our natural, native fish?”

Environmental scientist Roderick O’Sullivan said BIM plans, already backed by Mr Coveney, were: “Celtic Tiger stuff all over again — these huge untried complexes are based on Alice in Wonderland ambition, selfish greed, and a refusal to listen to common sense.”

The Federation of Irish Salmon and Sea Trout Anglers (Fissta) put into the letterbox of Mr Coveney’s closed office an objection to the proposed deep-sea salmon farm in Galway Bay.

Fissta is being backed in its objection by organisations such as No Salmon Farms at Sea, Salmon Watch Ireland, An Taisce, Coastwatch, Friends of the Irish Environment, Irish Seal Sanctuary, Save Bantry Bay, and Save Galway Bay.

Alec O’Donovan of Save Bantry Bay said a World Wildlife Federation report on salmon farming had “been buried” out of embarrassment by the Government due to the environmental risks.

The WWF report claimed excessive use of chemicals such as antibiotics, anti-foulants, and pesticides could have “unintended consequences for marine organisms and human health while viruses and parasites that transfer between farmed and wild species, as well as among farmed species, present a risk to wild populations or other farms”.

Brian Curran from Save Galway Bay said anglers have been the watchdogs of the environment and object to the industrialisation of deep water bays.

London-based Dr O’Sullivan said the Department of Marine “refuses to listen to any voice but its own”.

Taxpayers’ money, he said, would support a reckless explosion in salmon farming.

“We voice our objections to the building of giant salmon farms killing off more of our wild salmon and sea trout; we also object to the huge volumes of filth and toxic wastes from these farms; we object to the huge volume of insecticides, fungicides, and dangerous chemicals flushed into our shallow bays and estuaries, and, furthermore, we object to the gross exaggeration of 500 jobs to be created.”

He said salmon farming was highly mechanised, required fewer and fewer workers, and “any new menial jobs created will be cancelled out by local job losses in key industries such as angling and tourism”.

He said it was bizarre that Mr Coveney, who has responsibility for BIM, was asking the state agency to apply to his office for a licence to build the farms.

<http://www.irishexaminer.com/ireland/sea-of-protest-urges-coveney-to-prevent-fish-farm-plans-217171.html>

The Irish Times, 17 December 2012

Coveney urged to stop giant salmon farms

BARRY ROCHE

Anglers and environmentalists have called on the Minister for the Marine Simon Coveney to intervene to prevent the establishment of a number of major salmon farm projects at various locations off the Irish coast.

About 200 campaigners from as far away as Donegal, Fermanagh and Galway as well as from Cork, Kerry and Tipperary converged in Carrigaline in Co Cork on Saturday, from where they marched to Mr Coveney's constituency office and handed in a letter of protest.

Mr Coveney was not at the office at the time, but the protesters held a rally where speakers urged him to heed warnings that further salmon farms at sea would lead to an increase in sea lice and damage wild Atlantic salmon stocks.

Bord Iascaigh Mhara has applied for a licence for a €60 million deep-sea salmon farm on a 500 hectare site in the lee of Inis Oírr, the most southerly of the Aran Islands, with the promise of creating 500 jobs in the area.

Separately, Norwegian owned company Marine Harvest Island is proposing a €3.5 million salmon farm for Shot Head off Adrigole in Bantry Bay in west Cork as part of a €14 million investment in its 16 aquaculture sites in Irish waters.

<http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/ireland/2012/1217/1224327924798.html>

Salmon Farm Protest Carrigaline, 17 December 2012



See photos online here:

<http://corkweb.jalbum.net/Salmon%20Farm%20Protest%20Carrigaline/>

Wild Fish, 17 December 2012



**BOYCOTT SMOKED FARM SALMON THIS CHRISTMAS AND
GIVE THE ENVIRONMENT A CHRISTMAS PRESENT**

BOYCOTT CAMPAIGN WEBSITE LAUNCHED

A website [<http://www.wildfish.ie/>] has been established to support a boycott of farmed smoked salmon this Christmas to draw attention to the proposed expansion of salmon farms along the Irish coast.



Minister Simon Coveney has directed his Agency BIM to apply to himself for a licence to operate a super sized salmon farm in Galway Bay that will alone double Ireland's production of farmed salmon.

The Boycott campaign originated at a national meeting of groups and individuals opposing open net salmon farms in Bantry last month addressed by international anti-salmon farm campaigners and is supported by angling and environmental groups.

The campaign website provides stickers for supporters to use to spread the message. Supporters can download a template for standard labels address sheets which local printers and office suppliers have in stock. Using the provided art work on the template, single A4 colour printed sheets cost less than a euro and provide 18 stickers.

Almost 2,000 stickers were given out at the recent protest at Simon Coveney's office to protesters from all over the country. With the media refusing to cover the boycott, the campaign has been condemned by all sides of the industry, ironically providing the only public mention to date.

[Visit the website](#) | [Listen to Tony Lowes of FIE debate with Donal MacGuire on 'Morning Ireland'](#)

More details [online here](#)

GAAIA, 17 December 2012



Watch online via <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HN0fki3Rwd0&feature=youtu.be>

The Sunday Times Ireland, 16 December 2012

Fish farms 'pose threat' to wild salmon stocks

John Mooney

A REPORT by the Marine Institute shows infestations of sea lice on salmon farms in Ireland are higher than limits set by the government. Some farmed salmon were found to be contaminated with up to 71 sea lice each, more than five times the acceptable threshold.

Conservationists say wild salmon are slowly becoming extinct as a result of sea lice infestations caused by fish farms, where high levels of the marine parasites are found.

Wild juvenile salmon and sea trout, which are vulnerable to "clouds" of sea lice in their free-swimming larval stage, can become heavily infected with the parasites as they swim past fish farms while leaving estuaries.

Sea lice pose little threat to adult fish, but can kill juveniles whose scales are softer and cannot protect vital organs against attack.

Among the farms identified by the Marine Institute as having “elevated lice levels” during September and October were those run by Mannin Bay Salmon Company in Co Galway and a Marine Harvest fish farm in Lough Swilly, Co Donegal.



Damien O'Brien, a spokesman for No Salmon Farms at Sea, a campaign organisation, said sea lice were having a detrimental effect on wildlife fish stocks.

“There are surveys that show that up to 39% of young salmon smolts are killed after being infected by sea lice while swimming past salmon farms.

“High concentrations of salmon in confined spaces attract the parasites. It takes 11 sea lice to kill a smolt. Some wild salmon caught by anglers close to salmon farms around Ireland have been found to be carrying more than 50 parasites,” said O'Brien.

In the wild, salmon generally become infected with small numbers of the tadpole-like sea louse, *Lepeophtheirus salmonis*, as adults. Farmed fish are far more vulnerable.

“The government is promoting fish farming at a cost to the environment and wild salmon populations. They recently identified 30 sites around the coastline where they hope to build fish farms. If constructed, they will have far-reaching consequences for stocks of salmon and the angling industry,” he said.

Ireland is an important breeding habitat for Atlantic salmon, *Salmo salar*. The species spawn each year in rivers around the country and produce approximately 4m smolts, that migrate out to sea.

Ireland once had a healthy population of wild salmon. In the 1980s, up to 20% of smolts returned as adult fish to spawn in Irish rivers.

In recent years, that figure has dropped to between 8% and 10%, which suggests that the species is affected by factors that have still not been identified by scientists.

Conservationists blame the decline in wild populations on fish farms, over-fishing, pollution and unknown factors.

Gerry O'Donohue, of Mannin Bay Salmon, said sea lice were a problem for all fish farms. "We are very careful to ensure that we do everything possible to reduce the prevalence of sea lice in our salmon stocks.

"We have learnt how to deal with sea lice. When high levels of sea lice are detected, we harvest the fish, as we are an organic farm and do not use chemicals," he said.

Marine Harvest Ireland said its Irish operations were audited 14 times a year by officials from the Marine Institute.

"We note that the control protocols in respect of sea lice operated by the Marine Institute on behalf of the state are more advanced than those operated in other jurisdictions, as the inspection regime is independent of the industry," the company said.

"Data obtained as a result of inspections is published and treatment trigger levels are set at a low level. These controls are widely accepted as representing best practice internationally. Marine Harvest Ireland conforms fully with this leading pest control strategy.

"We implement tried-and- tested operational procedures to control sea lice. On occasion, given certain climatic conditions, lice can be more prevalent and this has occurred this year as the reports clearly illustrate."

The Marine Institute declined to comment.

<http://www.friendsoftheireishenvironment.net/paperstoday/index.php?do=paperstoday&action=view&id=15226> and <http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/ireland/article1177679.ece>

You Tube, 15 December 2012



Anti Salmon Farm Speakers in Carrigaline 15-12-2012

Watch online via <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s1Lrhkm-TjQ&feature=share>

The Irish Examiner, 15 December 2012

Company seeking fish farm expansion exceeds sea lice levels

The Norwegian company seeking to expand its fish farming operation in West Cork breached sea lice protocol levels five times in their Donegal operations, according to monitoring by the Marine Institute.



The impact of sea lice generated by fish farms is a huge source of controversy internationally with environmentalists and anglers arguing that farmed fish pens create high levels of sea lice which pose a potentially fatal threat to young salmon swimming out to sea.

This risk forms part of the campaigns against Norwegian giant Marine Harvest's planned 100-acre organic salmon fish farm at Shot Head in Bantry and Bord Iascaigh Mhara's planned 500-hectare deep-sea salmon farm 6km off Inis Oirr.

Environmentalists will today march to Agriculture Minister Simon Coveney's constituency office in Carrigaline, Co Cork, to highlight opposition.

Data [published](#) by the Marine Institute as part of its Oct 2012 sea lice report shows that Marine Harvest's Lough Swilly farm in Donegal recorded elevated sea lice levels, as did Ocean Farm's Donegal Bay farm and Mannin Bay Salmon Company's farm at Corhounagh. The Lough Swilly operation has a mean of 9.35 ovigerous (egg-bearing) sea lice per fish, Mannin Bay had 9.36, and McSwynes (Ocean Farm) had 3.49. Protocol states the fish must be treated to kill the sea lice once there is over 2.0 egg-bearing female sea lice per fish.

In September, elevated sea lice levels were recorded at Marine Harvest's Cranford A and Lough Swilly farm, and at Mannin Bay's Corhounagh site.

Niall Greene, chairman of Salmon Watch Ireland, said fish farmers have recorded stark rises in sea lice due to a big outbreak of amoebic gill disease in Irish and Scottish salmon fish farms.

"This causes the farmed fish to go off their food and to they won't take in the treatment. Sea lice numbers have gone off the scale as a result," he said.

Marine Harvest last night defended the figures, saying sea lice control protocols in Ireland are "more advanced than those operated in other jurisdictions as the inspection regime is totally independent of the industry".

"These controls are widely accepted as representing best practice internationally. Marine Harvest Ireland conforms fully with this leading pest-control strategy. Given certain climatic conditions, lice can be more prevalent and this has occurred this year".

"Best practice in fish farming is to optimise stock rotation and separation by having a greater number of sites. This is why we have applied for a licence application for Shot Head, to complement our existing facilities by enabling improved rotation of our fish stocks therefore implementing best practice with regard to lice control."

<http://bantryblog.wordpress.com/2012/12/15/company-seeking-fish-farm-expansion-exceeds-sea-lice-levels/>

Read more via "[FishyLeaks: Lice-Infested Irish Salmon](#)"

Salmon Farms Ireland, 14 December 2012



<http://www.salmonfarmsireland.com/>

Green Around the Gills, 14 December 2012

Gathering Ireland Against Salmon Farming

Tomorrow's [protest](#) against salmon farming expansion in [Ireland](#) is not the kind of gathering the Irish Government had in mind when they launched their '[Gathering Ireland](#)' marketing campaign to boost the global image of Ireland.

Gathering Ireland Against Salmon Farming



"The Gathering Ireland 2013 will be a spectacular, year-long celebration of all things Irish," [proclaims](#) the PR initiative promoted by [Fáilte Ireland](#) and [Tourism Ireland](#). "Irish individuals and community groups – both at home and abroad – are at the heart of the Gathering."

A screenshot of the website for 'the gathering IRELAND 2013'. The header is green with navigation links: 'ABOUT THE GATHERING', 'HOME', 'PARTNERS', and 'JOIN OUR NEWSLETTER'. There are social media icons for Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Pinterest, and YouTube. The main navigation bar includes 'CREATE A GATHERING', 'VIEW GATHERINGS', 'I LOVE IRELAND', and a search bar. Below this is a 'Gathering Calendar' and 'Gathering Map' section. The calendar displays six events in a grid:

 NYE CELEBRATIONS DUBLIN JAN 01 2013	 300TH GALWAY TRAD SESSIONS CELEBRATIONS JAN 10 2013	 THE CRUMMEY FAMILY GATHERING MAR 23 2013
 SEATTLE VIKINGS RUGBY TOUR MAR 31 2013	 BUTTEVANT WALLED TOWN DAY JUN 16 2013	 MACROOM FOOD FESTIVAL SEP 27 2013

'Gathering Ireland' is officially launched on New Year's Eve in Dublin with a smorgasbord of ['I Love Ireland'](#) events during 2013. However, people across Ireland and abroad are not feeling the love for Irish farmed salmon (including the consumer scam that is Irish ['organic'](#))

salmon). Visitors to Ireland surely do not want to see a 15,000 tonne salmon farm blighting the view from the famous Cliffs of Moher in [Galway Bay](#).



"Tourism will gradually decline in the west of Ireland, and especially in Clare and Galway, because of the unsightly pen markers and the gradual awareness in the minds of the public that Galway Bay has become an "industrial" asset of big business rather than the natural asset it is now perceived as," wrote US resident Thomas Marshall in a letter published in [The Irish Examiner](#) (5 December). "Moreover, the cumulative effect of the effluent and detritus from the caged salmon, along with the inevitable escapes, will adversely affect wild salmon as well as lobsters, crabs and crustaceans in a wide area."

"Ian Powell of Blackwater Lodge salmon fishery, a tourist facility in Waterford, said he will be taking part in the march on Mr Coveney's office on Saturday," reported today's [Irish Examiner](#). "He claimed far more jobs and livelihoods would be lost than created by allowing salmon farms along the coast. Wild salmon, he said, were only beginning to recover from the drift nets which had been banned in 2006. "Salmon farming has been a total disaster in other countries. This talk about it creating a lot of jobs is a complete load of rubbish. Very few people will be employed in the farms."



World champion salmon fly tyer Declan Tuffy from Galway, told [The Irish Times](#) (10 December) that the Irish Government's plans to increase salmon farming production by a staggering 100 per cent will be nothing short of an environmental disaster. "We have a duty as Irish citizens to protect our rare natural resource," he said. "BIM gave us a 'golden egg story' of how salmon farms will provide hundreds of jobs to coastal communities. The impact of fish farms on local economies is far more damaging to communities, the environment and businesses dependant on angling tourism with job losses way out-stripping job creation," Tuffy said.



Protestors gathered last month outside the Norwegian Embassy in Dublin to raise awareness of the disease-ridden Irish operations of the Norwegian company Marine Harvest.



Watch video report via “[Message to Norwegian Embassy in Dublin: Fish Farms Out!](#)”

The message to Norway and Ireland is loud and clear - stop the expansion of salmon farming off the Irish coast. The message to tourists coming to the Emerald Isle for Gathering Ireland 2013 is equally clear - go green and don't eat disease-ridden Irish farmed salmon!



Read article in full via: <http://donstaniford.typepad.com/my-blog/2012/12/gathering-ireland-against-salmon-farming-.html>

Cork News, 14 December 2012

Anti-fish farm groups rally

A protest at the Cork office of the Minister for Agriculture, Food and Rural Development will take place tomorrow, Saturday. A number of anti-fish farm groups will march to Minister Simon Coveney's Carrigaline constituency office as part of the demonstration. They include No Salmon Farms At Sea (NSFAS), the Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers (FISSTA), Save Bantry Bay, Save Galway Bay and Friends of the Irish Environment.

The protest comes as the organisations object to fish farming operations across the country, including the €3.5m plan by Marine Harvest to expand its salmon farming operations off Bantry Bay.

The NSFAS stated that the wild Atlantic salmon is "now under serious threat" and in recent years, stocks have become critically low. "To the extent that many rivers in Ireland have been closed to angling," said the group. "Now, one of the greatest threats to this species is the government backed proposal to dramatically develop the salmon farming industry around our coastline."

The protest will congregate at Carrigaline Secondary School at 12 noon before marching to Minister Coveney's constituency office, where invited speakers will address those in attendance.

<http://thecorknews.ie/articles/anti-fish-farm-groups-rally-8713>

Fish News EU, 14 December 2012

Coveney Under the Cosh

A COALITION of Environmental Groups is organising a protest against the expansion of the salmon farming industry in the constituency of Ireland's fisheries Minister, Simon Coveney, tomorrow.

Save Bantry Bay, Save Galway Bay, NSFAS(No Salmon Farms At Sea), FISSTA, and Friends of the Irish Environment, along with other local and national organisations, will hold a protest march in Carrigaline, County Cork. They will congregate at Carrigaline Secondary School at 12pm and will march from there to Minister Simon Coveney's constituency office where invited speakers will address those in attendance.

They claim that Minister Coveney has been a strong supporter of the aquaculture industry and they intend to let him know that his support is misguided and will result in catastrophe not only for Ireland's stocks of wild Atlantic salmon and sea trout, but also for the communities and local businesses that depend on their very existence. An extensive social media and networking campaign has been conducted and large numbers of anglers, conservationists and concerned residents from all over the country have indicated that they will be present to voice their opposition to the recent proposals to expand in Galway Bay and Bantry Bay.

http://www.fishnewseu.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=9539:coveney-under-the-cosh&catid=46:world&Itemid=56

Toronto Star, 14 December 2012

Canadian Food Inspection Agency tangles with P.E.I. fish scientist



DENIS CALNAN PHOTO Dr. Frederick Kibenge, chair of the department of pathology and microbiology and professor of virology at the Atlantic Veterinary College in Charlottetown.

Denis Calnan
Special to the Star

CHARLOTTETOWN—There’s something fishy going on in Prince Edward Island.

A professor at Atlantic Veterinary College says the Canadian Food Inspection Agency is trying to discredit his work after tests he conducted showed a virus in British Columbia’s valuable wild salmon population.

Dr. Frederick Kibenge, who found the infectious salmon anemia (ISA) virus in October 2011, is recognized by the World Organisation for Animal Health — known as the OIE — as an expert on the virus.

Despite Kibenge’s results, and a Department of Fisheries and Oceans lab in B.C. that also found ISA, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency has maintained that West Coast salmon is free of the virus, which has never been found in the province before.

If the virus is confirmed, it could have a devastating impact on the wild salmon industry in the province.

The OIE says Kibenge’s results in other cases were questioned by OIE member countries — it wouldn’t say which ones — and that it conducted an audit of his lab this summer. The organization says the “conclusions of the audit were unfavourable and showed that a series of

weaknesses in the system have a direct impact on the quality of diagnosis conducted by AVC.”

Kibenge, chair of the department of pathology and microbiology and professor of virology at AVC, where he has been since 1989, says the international cases were “never questioned” when the OIE met with him. The only case talked about was in British Columbia.

The CFIA had earlier conducted its own inspection of the lab and raised concerns, which the AVC said it would address.

Kibenge’s lab is one of only two OIE-designated labs worldwide that studies the virus; the other is in Norway.

A letter from the CFIA, dated Nov. 5, was sent to the OIE supporting a recommendation to temporarily suspend the OIE designation of Kibenge’s lab. The letter was from Dr. Brian Evans, the Canadian government representative to the OIE and also a senior manager at the CFIA.

In the letter, Evans acknowledges the college’s efforts to “address the scientific basis for the reporting of disparate and non-repeatable results and their respect for the OIE process and requirements.”

Kibenge accuses the federal government of being unhappy with his results.

“It was done to completely cut me out — destroy my reputation,” says Kibenge, referring to the audits as a “hatchet job.”

Asked why the government would be trying to discredit him, Kibenge says: “I don’t know, but they are doing it very well.”

The Atlantic Veterinary College does not agree with him.

“I think Dr. Kibenge has his opinions and we certainly respect that,” says Dr. Don Reynolds, the dean of the AVC. He says the issue of the proposed suspension and Kibenge’s results on West Coast salmon are not related.

This is the first time the lab has been audited by the OIE and Reynolds says he wants to address concerns of the member countries while awaiting the decision on suspending the lab, which is expected in May 2013.

“We know there are some issues and concerns, and we are not in disagreement, (but) until we get some of these issues and concerns (addressed) we ought to maybe just take a minute . . . and work through some of these things.”

On the other side of the country some people who worked with Kibenge are expressing concern about the letter and the federal government's handling of the issue of the salmon anemia.

Rick Routledge, a professor at Simon Fraser University and a fish-population statistician, sent Kibenge the fish samples he tested in his lab. Routledge has not seen the letter and does not want to comment on the audit but says the government is not doing enough to stop the spread of infectious salmon anemia.

“The focus, in my mind, should not be on attempting to discredit one particular lab,” he says. “I think it is absolutely the wrong approach. They (the federal government) need to be taking this matter seriously and showing some responsible leadership.”

Alexandra Morton is an outspoken independent researcher and opponent of farmed salmon. “When Dr. Kibenge diagnosed this virus for Chile in 2007 his results were accepted — there was not this kind of debate.”

She notes that after Kibenge made his diagnosis, “the epidemic went viral” in Chile and devastated its salmon fish farming industry. She believes the CFIA is uncomfortable with designating B.C. as being positive for the virus.

Beatrice Olivastri, CEO of Friends of the Earth Canada, says “This can only be a witch hunt against someone who doesn't agree with the government line, and is suffering from the government's bullying.”

Kibenge feels more confident now about his results than when he first publicized them.

“My information here is actually supposed to be helping the industry, the government and the science and everyone, rather than creating problems,” says Kibenge.

Kibenge says if the OIE does take its designation away from his lab, then the government will “have succeeded in destroying my professional credibility,” but he says “at the end of the day I think it will be the OIE's loss because I think I am one of the best in terms of science on ISA virus — that's undisputed.”

<http://www.thestar.com/news/canada/article/1302712--canadian-food-inspection-agency-tangles-with-p-e-i-fish-scientist>

Irish Examiner, 14 December 2012

Call to boycott salmon farms ‘sabotage’

By Anne Lucey

A call for a national boycott of farmed salmon products was yesterday condemned as an act of sabotage.

The aquaculture executive of the Irish Farmers' Association, Richie Flynn, warned that the ill-conceived boycott posed a serious threat to a vital farming and processing sector for marine communities.

Environmental groups are seeking a national boycott "as a gift to the environment for Christmas" as opposition mounts to plans to locate huge salmon farms along the west coast.

The boycott is being led by Friends of the Irish Environment, a group which claims huge open-pen salmon farms planned for Galway Bay, in addition to an expansion of a Norwegian-owned farm in Bantry Bay, will devastate the coastal environment and destroy wild salmon stocks as well as tourism.

BIM's application for a licence for Galway will more than double the State's current farmed salmon output, the group said.

The IFA's Mr Flynn said: "People enjoy smoked Irish salmon, especially over Christmas, and they should not be discouraged from buying it because of an ill-thought-out and malicious protest."

The decision to launch a boycott for Christmas originated at a meeting in Bantry last month and was supported by An Taisce, Coastwatch, the Irish Seal Sanctuary, No Salmon Farms at Sea, Salmon Watch Ireland, and others, Friends of the Irish Environment said.

However, John Browne of the family-owned De Brun Iasc near Dingle, says it will hit the small salmon organic salmon farmers as well as small companies like his.

"We buy all our salmon from an organic producer in West Cork. We wanted to use only wild salmon but the ban on salmon fishing put an end to that," he said.

Meanwhile, a number of Cork-based groups backed by national organisations are planning to march tomorrow on the Carrigaline constituency office of Simon Coveney, the agriculture, marine, and food minister.

Ian Powell of Blackwater Lodge salmon fishery, a tourist facility in Waterford, said he will be taking part in the march on Mr Coveney's office on Saturday.

He claimed far more jobs and livelihoods would be lost than created by allowing salmon farms along the coast. Wild salmon, he said, were only beginning to recover from the drift nets which had been banned in 2006.

"Salmon farming has been a total disaster in other countries. This talk about it creating a lot of jobs is a complete load of rubbish. Very few people will be employed in the farms."

<http://www.irishexaminer.com/ireland/call-to-boycott-salmon-farms-sabotage-216954.html>

IFA Aquaculture Dismisses Call for Boycott on Smoked Salmon

IRELAND - IFA Aquaculture Executive Richie Flynn has condemned a call for consumers to boycott smoked salmon for Christmas as an act of sabotage on a vital farming and processing sector for marine communities.

Mr Flynn said, "This reckless posturing by Friends of the Irish Environment could undermine what is a quality product at a very important time of the year for sales. People enjoy smoked Irish salmon, especially over Christmas, and they should not be discouraged from buying it because of an ill-thought out and malicious protest."

"Unfortunately, Friends of the Irish Environment do not appear to be interested in jobs, exports or the facts. Their attempt to target smoked salmon is little more than a stunt, which unfortunately could be very costly for Irish jobs and exports."

<http://www.thefishsite.com/fishnews/19031/ifa-aquaculture-dismisses-call-for-boycott-on-smoked-salmon>

Wall Street Journal/Associated Press/ABC, 14 December 2012

Listeria contamination: Ocean Beauty recalls 2 types of smoked salmon

SEATTLE — Ocean Beauty Seafoods has announced a precautionary recall of two cold-smoked salmon products distributed in 12 states because of possible Listeria contamination.



The products are the 3-ounce Nathan's Brand Cold Smoked Atlantic Salmon and the 4-ounce Lasco Cold Smoked Nova Atlantic Salmon. The products were distributed to retailers and distribution centers in Washington, Oregon, California, Arizona, Texas, Colorado, Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Jersey and New York.

The Lasco salmon has a universal product code, or UPC, of 0 72840 01751 7. The Nathan's salmon has a UPC of 0 73030 80368 2.

No illnesses have been reported. Listeria can lead to severe illness for women who are pregnant or people who have a weakened immune system.

Ocean Beauty says internal testing by the company revealed the presence of Listeria in samples of the specific package codes noted above.



<http://online.wsj.com/article/APef83d5a5673a42d79131d3141bce2c61.html> and <http://www.wggb.com/2012/12/15/listeria-concerns-prompts-salmon-recall/>

Read more about listeria in farmed salmon via “[Fish Farmageddon](#)”

Fish Farming Xpert, 14 December 2012

Increased use of therapeutants in Chile

Chile: So far this year, the Chilean salmon industry has used more antimicrobial products and delousing agents per gram of farmed fish than in 2011. This situation is more pronounced in the Region of Aysén.

Christian Pérez

Antimicrobial products

According to a report recently published by the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Service (Sernapesca), the Chilean salmon industry has used an average of 465gr of antibiotics per tonne of salmon in the Region of Los Lagos in the first nine months of this year, representing a 9.47 percent increase compared to the 425gr registered in the same period of 2011.

Likewise, the sector has used 508gr of antibiotics per tonne of salmon in the Region of Aysén, representing a 44.82 percent increase compared to the 351gr reported up to September 2011.

The neighborhood "22b" is located nearby the city of Aysén and registers the highest average use of antimicrobial products in the period: 2,481gr/tonne of fish.

Delousing agents

Meanwhile, the local industry has used an average of 0.70gr of pyrethroids (Deltamethrin and Cypermethrin) per tonne of salmon in the Region of Los Lagos up to September this year, representing a 21.85 percent decrease compared to the 0.89gr registered in the same period of 2011.

Likewise, the sector has used 1.09gr of pyrethroids per tonne of salmon in the Region of Aysén, representing a 65.72 percent increase compared to the 0.66gr reported in the first nine months of 2011.

The neighborhood "18d" is located in the area surrounding the Ninualac Channel (Region of Aysén) and registers the highest average use of pyrethroids in the period: 11.11gr/tonne of fish.

Sernapesca explained that there is a notorious higher abundance of sea lice in some specific neighborhoods, while those farming sites located in these areas are categorized as Sites of Large Spread or CAD. Therefore, the larger use of pyrethroids in some neighborhoods responds to higher abundances of sea lice (equal or higher than 9 adult lice per fish).

http://fishfarmingxpert.com/index.php?page_id=76&article_id=97169

Fish Farming Xpert, 14 December 2012

B.C. companies vying for certification first

Canada: This fall, both Marine Harvest Canada and Mainstream Canada claim to be the first British Columbia- based salmon farming company to achieve a "Two Star" rating by the Global Aquaculture Alliance's Best Aquaculture Practices standards

Odd Grydeland

While something might be lost in the interpretation of the two largest B.C. salmon farming companies' announcements, there remains no doubt that both of them are aggressively pursuing the ultimate goal of full Four Star rating by the GAA/ BAP standards. Just over a month and a half ago- in late October- Marine Harvest released the following statement;

Marine Harvest Canada (MHC), British Columbia's largest salmon aquaculture company, today reports that its feed supplier, Skretting North America, has achieved certification under the Global Aquaculture Alliance, Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP) Feed Mill Standard for its Vancouver operation. In June, MHC announced the certification of its salmon farm sites to BAP standards. The addition of BAP certified salmon feed gives MHC a coveted 'two star' rating - a first in BC. Today's certification announcement is an important step in the company's progress towards achieving a full "four star rating" from BAP, which will include certification of all its salmon farms, processing plants, feed suppliers and freshwater hatcheries.

Chris Beattie, General Manager of Skretting North America states that BAP certification is further recognition of Skretting's commitment to sustainability. In the past 2 years Skretting has introduced sustainable raw material sourcing policies, a global CO2 reduction target in

addition to on-going programs addressing areas of sustainability such as how to further reduce use of fish oil. "Right now, we are providing our customers with a continuous supply of BAP certified salmon," says Clare Backman, Sustainable Programs Director at MHC. "We are delighted that our feed supplier has also achieved BAP certification, as this is a key element of sustainable production that will be welcomed by our valued customers."

Then last week, Mainstream Canada issued a Newsletter, suggesting that it was the first two-star BAP certified salmon farm company in BC;

Mainstream Canada is the first salmon farming company in BC to achieve two-star Best Aquaculture Practices certification this week, after its Tofino processing plant was certified. Mainstream Canada has already achieved Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP) certification from the Global Aquaculture Alliance (GAA) for several farm sites. In 2011, Mainstream's Brent Island farm was the first salmon farm in the world to achieve BAP certification.

Achieving BAP certification for Mainstream's Pacific National Processing plant in Tofino means another first for Mainstream - with farm sites and now a processing plant certified, Mainstream is the first salmon farming company in BC to achieve two-star certification from GAA for farming and processing. "We are very proud of this achievement. It shows our commitment to leading the way in sustainable aquaculture practices on our farms and in our processing facilities," said Fernando Villarroel, Mainstream Canada's managing director. "This new processing plant certification shows we are committed to the highest standards in producing salmon for our customers that is fresh, food safe and nutritious."

http://fishfarmingxpert.com/index.php?page_id=76&article_id=97165

Irish Examiner, 13 December 2012

Salmon boycott urged by fish farm opponents

By Claire O'Sullivan

Shoppers are being encouraged to boycott farmed salmon by Irish anglers, coastal communities, and environmentalists opposed to the further expansion of fish farms around the coast.

Campaigners say wild salmon and trout stock are threatened by the salmon farms, that traditional shellfish grounds will suffer, and that seawater will be polluted if the increase in salmon farms goes ahead.

Up to 150 people attended a meeting in West Cork last month aimed at discussing the Government's plans to promote salmon farming around the coast.

Attendees agreed to picket Agriculture Minister Simon Coveney's constituency office in Carrigaline on Saturday and to ask the public to boycott farmed salmon.

Earlier this year, the Save Bantry Bay group was set up to fight Marine Harvest's plans to develop a 100-acre organic salmon fish farm at Shot Head. Local fishermen, tourism interests, and anglers in the Aran Island are drawing up submissions to object to Bord

Iascaigh Mh-ara's planned 500-hectare deep-sea salmon farm 6km off Inis Oirr.

Kerry anglers also oppose BIM's tentative proposals to develop another salmon fish farm at Ballydavid.

BIM aquaculture manager Donal Maguire yesterday told RTÉ the boycott was "an ill-considered and unfortunate move, as Irish smoked organic salmon is a premium product renowned all over the world" and that supporting the boycott would put Irish jobs at risk.

Last month, Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) accused BIM of overestimating by 60% the number of jobs that will be created at the fish farm it wants to build off the Aran Islands.

In a submission on the proposed farm's environmental impact, the state agency charged with the protection of Ireland's fishing rivers and sea angling, IFI warned that the farm is likely to produce up to 200 jobs, rather than the 500 promised by BIM.

BIM said it was evaluating IFI's submission and could not comment. However it stood over its figure of 500 jobs. A further 150 jobs would be created indirectly in the service sector, it said.

<http://www.irishexaminer.com/ireland/salmon-boycott-urged-by-fish-farm-opponents-216801.html>

Intrafish, 13 December 2012



Group launches farmed smoked salmon boycott

Farmers condemn NGO's plans to boycott smoked salmon over Christmas.

 IntraFish Media

Published: 13 December 2012 02:17 PM

Updated: 13 December 2012 02:36 PM

Friends of the Irish Environment (FIE) launched a national boycott of farmed smoked salmon for Christmas as part of a protest against the [expansion of salmon farming along the Irish coast](#).

The campaign, with the slogan "Boycott farmed smoked salmon this Christmas and give a gift to the environment," said the expansion contradicts the moratorium on fish farms agreed under the National Development Plan's Irish Seafood National Program 2007 to 2013, published in July 2010.

This ruled that no increase in production would take place until the sea lice issue had been addressed.

"We are asking people to forgo one of their favorite Christmas fare to support the call to protect our wild salmon and its waters," said FIE in a statement.

The boycott was condemned by Richie Flynn, aquaculture chief executive at the Irish Farmers' Association (IFA), as an "act of sabotage on a vital farming and processing sector for marine communities."

"This reckless posturing by FIE could undermine what is a quality product at a very important time of the year for sales," he said. "People enjoy smoked Irish salmon, especially over Christmas, and they should not be discouraged from buying it because of an ill-thought out and malicious protest."

"Unfortunately, FIE do not appear to be interested in jobs, exports or the facts," Flynn said. "Their attempt to target smoked salmon is little more than a stunt, which unfortunately could be very costly for Irish jobs and exports."

Associated Articles

- [Ireland's proposed salmon farm slammed](#)
- [All shoppers want for Christmas is ... salmon](#)
- [Pressure is on smoked seafood suppliers](#)
- [Will Santa be kind to smoked salmon suppliers?](#)

<http://www.intrafish.com/global/news/article1360636.ece>

Subscribe to Intrafish via: <http://www.intrafish.com/subscription/>

GAAIA, 13 December 2012



The Norwegian salmon farming industry has spread around the world like a bad parasite, spreading disease, sea lice, and fecal filth into waters around the world.

Here the Norwegian Embassy in Dublin, Ireland, gets a message that people are uniting against the negative impacts of the salmon farming industry and telling Norway to get its filthy fish farms out of Ireland!

Go to <http://www.nosalmonfarmsatsea.com/how-you-can-help/> to support the efforts to keep the waters of Ireland from being swamped with salmon farms.

To support the ongoing efforts to bring the untied message to Norway next March, please consider donating at this website; <http://www.wildsalmonfirst.org/take-action/upcoming-campaigns/58-taking-it-to-norway>

Watch online via: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=04w1xf-eT6Q>

Galway Advertiser, 13 December 2012

Welby seeks independent enquiry into fish farm proposals

By Kernan Andrews

Proposals for a Deep Sea Fish Farm in Galway must be subject to an independent enquiry following deeply inconsistent reports given by two State bodies to the Galway County Council.

This is the view of the Mayor of County Galway, Thomas Welby, who has written to the Minister for the Marine Simon Coveney, calling on him to suspend the licensing process and initiate the review. The farm is proposed to be located in Galway Bay.

Mayor Welby is concerned about what he sees as “the complete inconsistency of information” between the Inland Fisheries Ireland and Bord Iascaigh Mhara, as outlined in two separate presentations given at County Buildings recently.

The presentation by the IFI expressed concerns regarding effects on wild stock in relation to sea lice, possible cross contamination of wild stock from escaped farmed stock, EIS reports the IFI called “deficient”, and questionable jobs calculations.

However, the BIM presentation stated sea lice was not an issue in relation to the decline of wild stock, that escapes from farmed cages will not occur, and that information from IFI was incorporated into the EIS reports.

“I am astounded that two State bodies were practically at polar opposites in relation to their presentations,” Mayor Welby said. “Because of the huge variance I am seriously concerned that one side is giving a totally misleading view. On the basis of this I am calling for an independent report regarding the application.”

Mayor Welby also said he would be “totally opposed to the project” as it could “wipe out the wild stock through sea lice infestation of native indigenous stocks of salmon and sea trout and cross contamination”.

He added: “In relation to the jobs projections, the possibilities of jobs displacements in the existing tourism sector needs to be thoroughly considered.”

<http://www.advertiser.ie/galway/article/57248/welby-seeks-independent-enquiry-into-fish-farm-proposals>

Intrafish, 13 December 2012

Norway: AGD alert at salmon farms

Vets warn of cases of amoebic gill disease at Norwegian salmon farms.

 Joar Grindheim

Published: 13 December 2012 09:09 AM

Updated: 13 December 2012 10:53 AM

Amoebic gill disease (AGD), which [caused huge losses for Scottish salmon producers this year](#), is most likely also to be found in Norway, said the Norwegian Veterinary Institute (NVI).

Changes in gills similar to that found with amoebic gill disease (AGD) had been found on salmon at fish farm sites in the counties of Rogaland and Hordaland, NVI reported on Dec. 5.

Atle Lillehaug, who heads NVI's fish health section told **IntraFish** the same agents found in Scotland had been detected at a farm site, while there was suspicion of the same agent at three to four other farm sites.

"We are waiting for final confirmation from an international reference laboratory, but one farm site appears to have the same agents as were verified in the outbreak of AGD in Scotland this year," he said. "Three or four other farm sites are also under suspicion for the same agents and are being examined now."

The farms are not located in the same area, which makes it highly unlikely one farm has infected another, which indicates the disease is established in Norway, also due to the fact that it was detected at four farm sites on the Western Norwegian coast in 2006.

"The outbreak is far-reaching, and there is no indication of any connection amongst them," Lillehaug told **IntraFish**. "There is scarcely any likelihood of infection spread between the farms."

The fact this disease has occurred earlier, and that it has returned now, implies it is established here and flourishing when conditions are right," he said. "The high water temperatures we had in October could well be the cause."

The first case was detected at the end of November, Lillehaug said.

With all of the farms suspected of harboring AGD, it was detected after findings of other diseases such as pancreas disease (PD). Therefore the mortality rate attributed to AGD is now minimal.

The currently considerable colder sea temperatures will curb the number of AGD cases, said Lillehaug.

"There might be a additional cases in addition to those under suspicion," he said. "But the sea is much colder now so I think this is tapering off. But we should be on the alert that if we get higher sea temperatures this could turn into a major problem."

The question now is if AGD could spread northwards to farms along the entire Norwegian coastline.

"Temperatures are falling now, so I don't think there is any danger of an AGD explosion at the present time," said Lillehaug.

<http://www.intrafish.com/global/news/article1360635.ece>

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Views & News from Norway, 13 December 2012

New pest attacks salmon

Associated Articles

- [Analysts: Disease threat to Norwegian farms could upset 2013 market](#)
- [Scottish Salmon Company Q3 earnings hit](#)

An amoeba from Tasmania has found its way to fish farms off the southwestern coast of Norway, setting off concerns that it can cause disease and death among salmon like it already has at Irish and Scottish fish farms.

Newspaper *Dagens Næringsliv* (DN) reported last week that the amoeba has shown up at around five fish farms off the coasts of Rogaland and Hordaland counties, where it's suspected of attacking the gills of salmon and thereby reducing their oxygen intake. The disease was blamed for killing salmon at fish farms in Scotland and Ireland last summer.

The amoeba is believed to have traveled from Tasmanian waters in the ballast tanks of ships. It's being fought with hydrogen peroxide solutions and fish farmers are preparing for battle. "This is clearly worrisome," Atle Lillehaug of the state veterinarian institute told DN.

<http://www.newsinenglish.no/2012/12/13/new-pest-attacks-salmon/>

Fisheries Information Service, 13 December 2012



Salmon farming. (Photo: Marine Harvest)

Salmon farming has a strong 'hypothetical potential' to grow

 **NEW ZEALAND**

Thursday, December 13, 2012, 06:00 (GMT + 9)

A new report by market research firm Coriolis for the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, says New Zealand has strong "hypothetical potential" to increase its harvest for its high-value fish species. Nevertheless, the report, titled *Investment Opportunities in the New Zealand Salmon Industry*, does not recommend investment in the sector due to the high levels of risk, uncertainty and cost around ocean space tenure.

Norway, which has a much more developed industry, produces 75 times as much salmon as New Zealand, which is geographically similar in size, *The New Zealand Herald* reports.

The country's salmon exports were worth NZD 63.4 million (USD 53 million) last year, according to statistics of Aquaculture NZ.

But the Coriolis report states that although there is potential for growth, it is unlikely to occur:

"The fundamental issue is that New Zealand as a society has yet to come to a consensus on salmon aquaculture, with proponents arguing for it to become a billion dollar industry, while a wide-ranging opposition of recreational fishermen, inshore fishing companies, holiday home owners and environmental advocates oppose its growth."

[Greenpeace](#), among other opponents to aquaculture, argue that the industry is not wholly sustainable and is damaging to the environment.

[New Zealand King Salmon](#) is the country's largest firm with 68 per cent of production, followed by [Sanford](#) with 24 per cent of production. The former has applied with the Environmental Protection Authority to expand to 206 hectares of water space in the Marlborough Sounds, allowing for the construction of nine new fish farms.

The company's CEO, Grant Rosewarne, said this would allow the firm to increase revenue from NZD 120 million (USD 100 million) to NZD 500 million (USD 418 million) over the next five to ten years. An interim ruling on the application is due 19 December.

"We are confident that we will be granted some space but it is in the hands of a board on inquiry who are currently considering the matter," said Rosewarne.

If extra water space can be secured, Rosewarne believes that salmon farming, which emerged in the late 70s in New Zealand, could become a NZD 1 billion (USD 836 million) industry.

"There's no other primary agricultural industry that can reap such rich rewards for New Zealand, requiring such little space and conducted in a completely sustainable way," he said.

Tim Morris, the author of the report, said that in theory the sector has potential to grow to a NZD 2 to 3 billion (USD 1.67 to 2.5 billion) industry if enough space was granted.

There are four other smaller players in the country. One of these, [Mt Cook Alpine Salmon](#), which farms in hydro power canals in the South Island's MacKenzie Basin, is in the middle of a NZD 20 million (USD 16.7 million) expansion plan to generate a production increase of 1400 per cent over the next four years.

Meanwhile, Eric Barrett, chief executive of Sanford, has expressed interest in modest growth plans within the industry.

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<http://www.fis.com/fis/worldnews/worldnews.asp?l=e&country=0&special=&monthyear=&day=&id=57536&ndb=1&df=0>

The Fish Site, 13 December 2012

Continued Work for Farmed Salmon Branding System

NORWAY - The aquaculture industry is working to find a good system for marking and tracing farmed fish. Many factors must be clarified, and this is taking longer than originally anticipated. FHL has conducted its own studies, and researchers are looking at new and innovative solutions.

Aquaculture has a zero vision when it comes to escapes. Companies are working diligently to reduce the incidence of escapes to an absolute minimum, and many achieve clear vision year after year.

Through Environment Campaign in 2011 FHL announced further measures to prevent escapes. FHL also presented a plan to find ways to identify all fish are released in the sea. The industry wants a solution that allows the escapees and wild salmon to be easily be distinguished in the river, and that farmed fish can be traced back to the company it came from.

A main criterion is that the method should be common to all, and does not involve risk to the environment, animal welfare, food safety or the environment. The system must provide identification and must not be copied or misused. Reviews of labeling costs and possible value in the market must be taken into account.

"We talk about the labeling and tracking of an estimated 250 million fish annually, and it goes without saying that the costs must also be weighed against the benefits. Of the known solutions are cutting fin fat, a relatively simple method that is currently used on a small scale for research purposes and cultivation. FHL see this as one possible solution, but we take note that the government will not go for such a scheme in the short or medium term," says Fredd Wilsgård, deputy chairman of FHL.

"When it comes to tracking fish back to business, we have concluded that we must continue to work on solutions where one makes use of the fish's own "brands", such as DNA and trace elements. We will also continue to work to find a suitable method to distinguish fish in the river," said Mr Wilsgård.

"We are very keen to reach a robust and future-proof solution. This will take time, and means that FHL are unable to launch a complete system before the end of 2012. But here are some more forskningsløp which runs parallel with the industry's own utredinger. We are impatient to find an appropriate solution, and have every confidence that we will manage this challenge too," says Mr Wilsgård.

Several research groups have started marking and tracking projects for the salmon industry. This year seven ongoing projects in these fields in the direction of FHF (Fisheries and Aquaculture Research), which has set aside 17 million for the purpose. Aquaculture Industry Environmental Fund has also contributed funds to other works in progress

<http://www.thefishsite.com/fishnews/19010/continued-work-for-farmed-salmon-branding-system>



Marine Harvest fish farm. (Photo: Marine Harvest/Steinar Johansen)

Ownership ceiling of salmon firms to be modified



NORWAY

Thursday, December 13, 2012, 03:10 (GMT + 9)

The Norwegian government is planning to allow salmon firms to own over 25 per cent of the total production capacity of the sector, conforming to European Union (EU) rules, which would allow the country's biggest Atlantic salmon producer, [Marine Harvest](#), to expand its Norwegian operations.

The [Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs](#) announced it "will soon submit for comment proposed amendments to the Aquaculture Act to provide authority for change of ownership control regulations."

The Ministry claims that the proposed rules would boost the coastal economies while not affecting the smaller fish-farming firms, reports *Reuters*.

The rules, which become progressively tougher depending on a fishery's share of total ownership, would include such demands as investments in research and other regional job-promoting schemes.

A company owning 15 to 20 per cent of the standing biomass, for example, would have to process on average 25 per cent of its fish in a coastal district over five years. The requirement increase progressively as the ownership increases, reaching 40 per cent for companies owning 35-40 per cent of the biomass, reports *Undercurrent News*.

"Marine Harvest is positive to the new regulations and believes the changes will strengthen local communities and scientific research and create value both for the companies and Norway as a fish-farming nation," said the firm.

The EFTA Surveillance Authority (ESA) challenged Norway's ownership rules in July, claiming that the government had not been able to prove that ownership ceilings are suitable or necessary.

Kolbjoern Giskeoedegard, an analyst at [Nordea](#), said "this was a victory for Marine Harvest, who challenged the government. The government is obviously bent on taking charge and comes with a proposal where increased ownership is linked to increased onshore activity."

Norwegian salmon producers such as [Cermaq](#) and [Salmar](#) have experienced share price increases, since they are seen as potential acquisition targets for Marine Harvest.

Cermaq was up 5.9 per cent and Salmar 3.6 per cent, while Marine Harvest shares gained 2.2 per cent.

Norway exported over USD 5 billion worth of salmon last year, two-thirds of it to other European countries.

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<http://www.fis.com/fis/worldnews/worldnews.asp?l=e&country=0&special=&monthyear=&day=&id=57534&ndb=1&df=0>

Fish News EU, 12 December 2012

Monopolisation moves closer in Norwegian farms

AN ANNOUNCEMENT made today by Marine Harvest ASA states that the Norwegian Ministries of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs will propose a change in the rules relating to ownership limitation to the Norwegian Parliament, and thus allow companies to own more than 25% of the salmon farming sector's total standing biomass.

Marine Harvest is excited about the new regulations – as it will give them an opportunity to expand – and also believes the changes will strengthen local communities and scientific research and create value both for the companies and Norway as a fish farming nation.

http://www.fishnewseu.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=9513:monopolisation-moves-closer-in-norwegian-farms&catid=46:world&Itemid=56

Read more via [“Norwegian Government allows more than 25% ownership”](#)

Afloat, 12 December 2012

Fisheries Forum Lambasts Minister Over Galway Bay Fish Farm Decision Process

The **National Inland Fisheries Forum (NIFF)** has criticised as "flawed" the consent process regarding the proposed deep-sea fish farm in Galway Bay which has stirred much controversy in recent weeks.

In a letter to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine as part of the public consultation process, NIFF chair Derek Davis writes that the forum "considers the consent process to be flawed" as a result of "the decision making function being exercised by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food" in a number of circumstances, including where:

the applicant - Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM) - "has several appointees of the said minister at board level";

the State fisheries board "receives funding and policy directions from the minister's department";

public announcements made on the proposals and related concerns "indicate pre-judging of the issues";

any appeal following the minister's decision "would be dealt with by appointees of the minister"; and where

the "specific statutory basis" on which BIM authorises aquaculture operations "has not been adequately set out".

The letter reiterates Inland Fisheries Ireland's (IFI) criticisms of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) carried out on the proposed location of the **15,000-tonne organic salmon farm off the Aran Islands**, stating the NIFF's believe that the document "is deficient in a number of areas" such as not adequately addressing wild salmon migration routes, and making presumptions on the potential impact of sea lice and escaped farmed salmon on adjacent fisheries.

The forum also has concerns regarding the public consultation itself, noting that requests for "specific scientific information used to underpin statements in the EIS" have not been followed through.

"The forum believes that on the basis of the information supplied, the minister is not in a position to make a positive decision on this application," writes Davis. "To do so would represent a failure to adhere to the precautionary principle" which applies "where there is uncertainty as to the existence or extent of risks".

The letter in full is available as a PDF to download HERE.

<http://afloat.ie/port-news/galway-harbour/item/20518-fisheries-forum-lambasts-minister-over-galway-bay-fish-farm-decision-process>

More via "[National Inland Fisheries Forum - Submission to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine](#)"

Galway Bay FM, 12 December 2012

Irish Wildlife Trust Objects to Galway Bay Fish Farm

The Irish Wildlife Trust is objecting to plans to build a major fish farm in Galway Bay.

Bord Iascaigh Mhara has applied for a deep sea salmon farming licence at a site roughly 6 kilometres off Inis Oírr, which has the potential to create hundreds of jobs.

The IWT claims the fish farm is not sustainable because of the potential for infestation of wild salmon with salmon that are breeding in the fish farm.

The organisation also claims Galway Bay does not have the capacity to assimilate the quantities of pollution caused by fish excreta and waste food.

BIM says its environmental impact statement addresses these issues, and the site was chosen because the high waves will keep Galway Bay free of any fish excretion.

However, Irish wildlife trust campaigns officer Pádraic Fogarty says the EIS statement is simply not credible in asserting there will be no negative impacts from the development.

<http://www.galwaynews.ie/29304-irish-wildlife-trust-objects-galway-bay-fish-farm>

Fish News EU, 12 December 2012

Salmon Boycott Launched

A COALITION of conservation organisations has called for a pan-Irish boycott of farmed smoked salmon at Christmas, as part of the protest against the expansion of salmon farming along the Irish coast.

According to conservationists, the plans to site a 'mega-farm' in Galway Bay contradicts the moratorium on fish farms agreed under the National Development Plan's Irish Seafood National Program 2007 – 2013 published in July 2010.

These developments led to a national meeting of groups and individuals opposing open net salmon farms in Bantry last month addressed by international anti fish farm campaigners. The Boycott campaign was agreed at that meeting and is supported by 10 different organisations including angling and environmental groups.

A spokesperson for the campaign said: "The public does not realise that countless scientific papers have shown without a doubt that salmon farming in the current locations in Ireland will decimate our own wild fish stocks and pollute our bays. Battery operations like this on land would have their waste strictly controlled, not released into the open. Salmon farming must be done in contained units that protect the environment and create a barrier to infections and parasites."

The campaign [website](#) provides stickers for supporters to use to spread the message. Supporters can download a template for standard labels address sheets which local printers and office suppliers have in stock. Using the provided art work on the template, single A4 colour printed sheets cost less than a euro and provide 18 stickers.

“The point of this campaign is to bring the public’s attention to what is happening in the bays along the west coast because of the location of the open net pen farmed salmon cages near our rivers. Visiting our simple [website](#) will leave no doubt in anyone’s mind that expansion of open net pen salmon farming in our bays must stop.”

http://www.fishnewseu.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=9512:salmon-boycott-launched&catid=46:world&Itemid=56

For Argyll, 12 December 2012

Giant rainbow trout farm poses threat to marine environment in Loch Etive



Loch Etive is now facing a significant expansion of rainbow trout farming.

Those who have followed the progress of rainbow trout farming on Lochs Awe or at Etive will know that there have been numerous escapes over the years; and these have continued under the new ownership of *Dawnfresh*.

The proposed new farm will be bigger than all the existing 5 farms on Loch Etive put together.

Its 14 cages will cover an area of the loch surface just short of three full-size football pitches.

This farm proposal holds threats for wildlife, landscape, fisheries, navigation, recreation and the wild nature of Loch Etive itself.

A highly concerned Mr Keith Macmillan of Muckairn on Loch Etive is asking those interested to go to [this website link](#), examine what is proposed and make their feelings known to Argyll and Bute Council in advance of the **planning deadline of 27th December**.

The request for early action on this by anyone similarly concerned is wise. The run up to the deadline of 27th December is otherwise likely to find many folk otherwise engaged.

While the website gives an objector's view of the proposal and the very many threats it poses to Loch Etive, for balance you will see also posted there the Environmental Statement produced by the consultants for *Dawnfresh*.

It is absolutely critical that those that do have concerns make them known, rather than stay silent.

The nature of fish-farming applications is such that planning permission, once granted, is now permanent – an astonishingly irresponsible piece of *laissez faire*.

<http://forargyll.com/2012/12/giant-rainbow-trout-farm-poses-threat-to-marine-environment-in-loch-etive/>

Undercurrent News, 12 December 2012

US cruise giant switches from Norwegian to Chilean salmon



Tom Seaman

Miami-based Carnival Cruise Lines is switching its salmon fillets from Norwegian to Chilean, with Marine Harvest Chile reportedly the beneficiary, sources told *Undercurrent News*.

Norway-based Marine Harvest, the world's largest farmer of salmon, will supply to the vessels of the US and UK cruise giant with frozen salmon fillets from its Chilean farms via its Miami sales operation, sources said.

The company losing the contract is UK-based processor Highland Farms, part of Smokehouse Holdings, a company controlled by salmon entrepreneur Jonathan Brown and his family.

Brown could not be reached for comment to *Undercurrent*.

US-based Marine Harvest executives could also not be reached to comment on the shift.

Highland Farms is still believed to be supplying the smoked salmon for Carnival, but Tony Ingham, managing director of the Maryport-based processor, could not be reached either.

The contract is reportedly worth \$5 million and is 1.2m pounds in volume.

Marine Harvest Chile is believed to have bid \$3 per pound, 30% under Highland Farms' bid using Norwegian salmon.

The menus on Carnival vessels are believed to brand its salmon as Norwegian. The switch to Chilean is reportedly taking place next week.

“Please be advised that we currently use only Norwegian salmon,” a spokeswoman for Carnival told *Undercurrent*. “Going forward, we’ll also use some Chilean salmon, however, we’ll use the term ‘Atlantic salmon’ — this refers to the species of the fish from either origin,” she said.

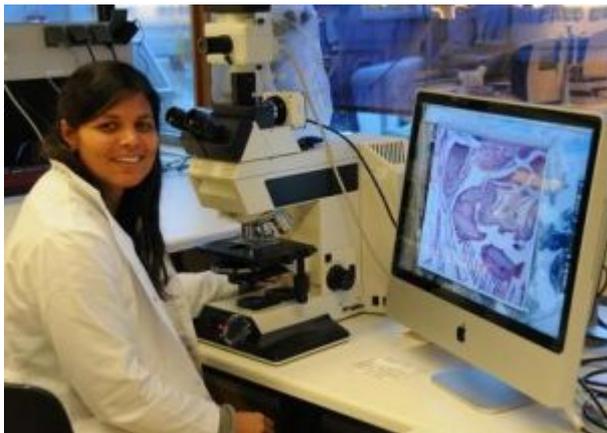
Read also

- **Leroy, US smoker trade legal blows over broken salmon contract**
- **Chilean salmon firms partner on China office**
- **Chile salmon farmers ‘losing close to \$1.50’ a kilo**
- **Chileans pitching for German salmon portion business**

<http://www.undercurrentnews.com/2012/12/12/us-cruise-giant-switches-from-norwegian-to-chilean-salmon/>

World Fishing & Aquaculture, 12 December 2012

Research grant for salmon disease project



Dr Sonal Patel. Credit: Beate Hoddevik Sunnset

The Norwegian Research Council has awarded Dr Sonal Patel an ‘excellent young researcher’ grant for a project that will study why farmed salmon get pancreatic disease (PD) and how the virus that causes the disease works.

The project, *Mitigating the challenges in the Atlantic salmon aquaculture caused by salmonid alphavirus by unveiling the underlying immune mechanisms*, will start in January 2013 and run for four years. The project has been awarded NOK8m by the Research Council, with additional funding also provided by IMR, totalling approximately NOK15m.

During the course of the project, Dr Patel and her colleagues will investigate the interaction between farmed salmon and the salmonid alphavirus, and how this virus causes PD. This disease is currently a major problem for the fish farming industry, both in terms of animal welfare and economics.

“Increased knowledge of the interaction between the virus and pre-smolt and smolt salmon will provide the opportunity to improve strategies to combat PD. In this project we will look at ways of improving vaccination strategies and also investigate how stress and smoltification affects the fish's susceptibility to this virus”, says Dr Patel.

The researchers will also examine how susceptible triploid salmon are to PD. Triploid salmon are generated by pressure treatment of the eggs just after fertilization. Triploid fish are sterile, and are likely to become more and more important to the aquaculture industry since escapees will be unable to breed with wild fish.

<http://www.worldfishing.net/news101/industry-news/research-grant-for-salmon-disease-project>

Global Aquaculture Alliance, 12 December 2012

Chilean Salmon Company Achieves Three-Star BAP Certification

The Global Aquaculture Alliance congratulates Congelados Pacifico S.A. Group for becoming the world's third salmon company -- and the second salmon company in Chile -- to achieve three-star Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP) certification.

The company's Chillidque and Morrolobos salmon farm sites earned BAP certification this month, while its Congelados Pacifico processing plant in Talcahuano, Biobio, Chile, landed BAP certification in October. The company sources its feed from EWOS Chile Alimentos Ltda. in Coronel, Chile, which earned BAP certification in September.



Congelados Pacifico produces approximately 10,000 tons of Atlantic salmon per year. Fresh and frozen head-on and headed-and-gutted fillets and portions are among its product forms. The company also markets frozen hake and hoki.

“This is a huge step for us. We have gone beyond market requirements to confirm our commitment with responsible aquaculture practices and to ensure that our salmon is farm raised in an environmentally and socially responsible way. We are one of the leading companies in this matter and are extremely proud of it,” said Angelo Pagliotti, VP of The Great Fish Company.



Founded in 1980, Congelados Pacifico has been in the salmon business since 2000. Along with the Colorado Boxed Beef Company, Congelados Pacifico established The Great Fish Company in Cumming, Georgia, USA, in 2000 to market its products in the North American market.

For more information on Congelados Pacifico and The Great Fish Company, visit www.congpacifico.cl and www.greatfishco.com.

About BAP

Best Aquaculture Practices is an international certification program based on achievable, science-based and continuously improved performance standards for the entire aquaculture supply chain -- farms, hatcheries, processing plants and feed mills -- that assure healthful foods produced through environmentally and socially responsible means. BAP certification is based on independent audits that evaluate compliance with the BAP standards developed by the Global Aquaculture Alliance. For more information on BAP, visit www.gaalliance.org/bap.

<http://www.gaalliance.org/newsroom/news.php?Chilean-Salmon-Company-Achieves-Three-Star-BAP-Certification-93>

Undercurrent News, 12 December 2012

Australian salmon farmer gains BAP certification



Australian salmon producer Tassal has become the country's first to achieve BAP certification at farm level.

The certification is a measure of the company's efforts in food safety, social welfare, animal welfare, environmental and traceability aspects of the operations, it said in a press release.

"We applaud the actions taken by Tassal and welcome it to the growing number of retailers and suppliers sourcing and supplying BAP product for their consumers in the Australian market place," said Peter Redmond, VP of global development for the Global Aquaculture Alliance (GAA).

The result of the independent audit was an important one for the company, said Tassal's chief sustainability officer Linda Sams.

"Tassal is the first salmon farm company in Australia to certify to BAP, which is an achievement in itself," she said.

"The BAP audit covers everything from environmental management to workplace health and safety to human resources.

The third party audit proved that the company was living up to its promise to externally certify its products to best practice standards, said Sams.

Read also:

- [**Tassal CEO: Volatile salmon prices to continue**](#)
- [**Tassal hopes to get more Aussies eating salmon**](#)
- [**Aussie fish farms get expansion go-ahead**](#)
- [**Australian seafood importer: Come to us with quality, not budget**](#)

http://www.undercurrentnews.com/2012/12/12/australian-salmon-farmer-gains-bap-certification/?utm_source=wysija&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=europe_newsletter_dec_13

Marlborough Express, 12 December 2012

Teen presents salmon farm petition

Cathie Bell

Teenage environmental campaigner Leona Plaisier presented her 11,000 signature petition to Green Party list MP Steffan Browning at Parliament yesterday.

The petition against salmon farms being built in recreational water space would be formally presented to Parliament at the beginning of today's session, and was expected to be referred to the primary production select committee for consideration next year, Mr Browning said.

He offered to accept the petition after 17-year-old Miss Plaisier was turned down by Conservation Minister Amy Adams, Tourism Minister and Prime Minister John Banks, Primary Industries Minister David Carter and Kaikoura MP Colin King.

Miss Plaisier lives in the outer Pelorus Sound, where her family runs the Tui Nature Reserve. Earlier this year, she was named a Department of Conservation conservation champion and last month won a "Local Hero" award at the Kiwibank New Zealander of the Year awards.

She was also nominated by DOC's Marlborough office for the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's International Young Conservationist Award.

Nelson-based King Salmon has applied to build nine new salmon farms in the Marlborough Sounds, eight of which are proposed in recreational areas where marine farming is prohibited.

The application is being handled by an Environmental Protection Authority board of inquiry, with a draft decision due this month.

Miss Plaisier submitted against the application at the board of inquiry hearing in Blenheim during September.

She said yesterday the authority's application process put people off making submissions.

"It is unfair to people without considerable time and resources and is not local-friendly."

Mr Browning, the Green Party's fisheries spokesman, said the Environmental Protection Authority should take into account the petition that highlights overwhelming public opposition to the application by New Zealand King Salmon to build the new salmon farms in the Marlborough Sounds.

"Public concerns, such as the impact on the recreational use of this beautiful waterway, should be placed ahead of the private profit and polluting rights of a foreign-owned company," he said.

"The Government has signalled that they want to see King Salmon's proposal succeed. That position cuts across the views of locals and the local council plan which prohibits aquaculture in the proposed space."

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/marlborough-express/news/8068039/MP-accepts-salmon-farm-petition>

Radio New Zealand, 12 December 2012

Online petition against salmon farm questioned

The head of a Marlborough Sounds salmon farm that wants to more than double its size is questioning the validity of an 11,000-signature petition opposing his plans.

King Salmon's application has been fast tracked through the government's Environmental Protection Agency, and will receive an interim decision on 19 December.

The government wants to grow aquaculture into a \$1 billion industry by 2025.

King Salmon chief executive Grant Rosewarne says the petition was carried out online and there was nothing to stop people signing more than once.

Mr Rosewarne says his company has a proven track record and the expanded farm will create an extra 370 new jobs for the top of the South Island.

<http://www.radionz.co.nz/news/regional/123321/online-petition-against-salmon-farm-questioned>

Voxy, 12 December 2012

Green MP Steffan Browning is incorrect - NZ King Salmon

Green MP Steffan Browning is incorrect in saying the salmon farm petition has been signed by "over [sic] 11,000 New Zealanders". The petition was hosted on AVAAZ which promotes itself as a global web movement and as such has been signed by many people outside New Zealand.

The petition itself is flawed on numerous accounts. Its failings include:

- Inconsistency in text on the petition site and no evidence of what text people signed up to at any point in time.
- Unverified signatories and the potential for one person to sign up multiple times.
- Inaccurate visuals.

The EPA's recent Board of Inquiry was a very thorough and professional process and there has been some robust testing of all of the evidence. We now await the interim decision on December 19.

We hope the board's decision will be supportive and enable us to bring to fruition this great opportunity for the Marlborough region, aquaculture in New Zealand and the nation itself.

Grant Rosewarne

CEO, NZ King Salmon

<http://www.voxy.co.nz/business/green-mp-steffan-browning-incorrect-nz-king-salmon/5/143323>

Intrafish, 12 December 2012

Waldorf Astoria replaces wild salmon with new premium farmed brand

New Zealand King Salmon's newly launched Ora King Salmon brand is making waves with chefs at top restaurants across the United States.

 Jeanine Stewart

Published: 12 December 2012 02:21 PM

Updated: 12 December 2012 02:11 PM

Before farmed salmon brands began to take off, the idea of a farmed variety replacing its wild cousin on a menu would have been ludicrous at any of the nation's top restaurants. Times have changed.

Waldorf Astoria New York's executive chef is nixing wild salmon from his menu in favor of a new farmed brand – Ora King Salmon, produced by New Zealand King Salmon.

"We were serving wild salmon before, but we found the salmon to be inconsistent depending on the time of year," David Garcelon, the executive chef for Waldorf Astoria New York's group of restaurants, told **IntraFish**. "This is a great product that we found to be more consistent."

But is he trading the quality of wild out for the security of consistency that farmed products provide? Not at all, Garcelon said.

He likens it to the top grade steaks he serves, which have a marbling effect produced by the fat.

"Just like a graded steak is graded prime because of the marbling of it, marbling in salmon makes for a great quality product as well," Garcelon said.

Associated Articles

- NZ King Salmon's new premium salmon targets chefs
- NZ King Salmon's escalating costs of expansion
- NZ King Salmon: Algal blooms caused fish deaths
- New Zealand wastes \$1.2b worth of fish
- King Salmon blasts farm opponents
- China now New Zealand's largest export market
- NZ King Salmon welcomes scientist's findings

Garcelon is one of numerous chefs and specialty retailers carrying the brand since it launched in the United States in October, including Deen & Deluca in New York, The French Laundry in California and Chaya Brasserie in Los Angeles.

The brand's marketing message touches on its production practices, as is the trend with premium farmed salmon brands these days.

Its breeding program "has produced over 90 distinct king salmon families, chosen so that only the finest examples of king salmon, with the best culinary traits, are carried forward to subsequent generations," Ian Romanis, breeding program supervisor, said.

New Zealand King Salmon also highlights its harvesting methods. The salmon are "humanely harvested using a percussive stunning method based on the traditional Japanese *Ike Jime* technique. These efforts to reduce stress result in a minimum release of lactic acid, which along with rapid chilling, help ensure a desirable texture," the company said.

Ryo Hasegawa, an executive sushi chef at the top-end Japanese restaurant chain Nobu, can attest to the product's texture.

It is "a very smooth, silky texture, like satin," Hasegawa told **IntraFish**. Ora King is the highest price salmon he sells.

Garcelon agreed the texture is top notch, adding, "You can tell it is a premium product by the way it looks."

But none were quite as enthusiastic as Mike Leslie, the sous chef at the Pineapple Room in Honolulu, who also put the product on his menu when it came out this fall.

"In my opinion, it's the best tasting salmon I've ever had," Leslie said. He describes himself as "not a big fishy guy," but no one would know it when he talks about Ora king salmon. He also says the product has become his favorite type of fish of all.

"It's very oily – when we break it down, it's that fatty feeling you want to feel when you break down fish, and that tells you from a chef's standpoint that it's going to cook up to be a deliciously moist piece of fish."

The brand has wound up in an array of locales that vary widely in style, just as the preparations do. While Hasegawa serves it as sushi, Garcelon serves it grilled, like steak, at the Waldorf Astoria's Bull & Bear Steakhouse.

In all places, the product stands out, if in no other way than aesthetically. "As chefs, we always look to have a bright contrasting color on a white plate," Garcelon said.

Carriers of Ora King Salmon*

- Craft (Los Angeles, CA)
- Nobu (New York, NY, Dallas, TX, Waikiki, HI)
- The French Laundry (Yountville, CA)
- The Pineapple Room by Alan Wong (Honolulu, HI)
- Roka Akor (Scottsdale, AZ and Chicago, IL)
- Public (New York, NY)
- Dean & DeLuca (New York, NY)
- Waldorf Astoria (New York, NY)
- Mitch's Sushi (Honolulu, HI)
- Bull & Bear Steakhouse (New York, NY)
- The Lobster Place (New York, NY)
- Lure Fishbar (New York, NY)
- Chaya Brasserie (Los Angeles, CA)
- Fairway Market (locations in New York and New Jersey)

**There are many more restaurants that carry the brand. Those not listed had policies against revealing their suppliers.*

<http://www.intrafish.com/global/news/article1360526.ece>

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Green Party New Zealand, 11 December 2012

EPA should consider public opposition to polluting salmon farm extension



Contact: [Steffan Browning MP](#)

The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) should take into account the petition of over 11,000 New Zealanders that highlights strong public opposition to the application by New Zealand King Salmon to build nine new polluting salmon farms in the Marlborough Sounds, says the Green Party.

Green Party fisheries spokesperson Steffan Browning received the 11,000 signature petition from 17 year old Marlborough Sounds resident Leona Plaisier today, which asks that no new salmon farms be built in recreational water space where aquaculture is prohibited.

Malaysian-owned King Salmon has applied to build nine new salmon farms in the Marlborough Sounds, eight of which are proposed in recreational areas where marine farming is prohibited. If successful, King Salmon would be granted the exclusive occupation of recreational water space, rent-free, for up to 30 years.

"The EPA Board of Inquiry should listen to the concerns of the 11,000 New Zealanders who have signed this petition opposing the expansion of polluting salmon farms in the iconic Marlborough Sounds," said Mr Browning.

"In addition to these petitioners, two-thirds of submitters, including the Marlborough District Council are opposed to the massive expansion of polluting salmon farms.

"The likely nutrient pollution of the proposed farms is equal to that of nearly 60,000 cows."

"We are looking forward to the decision of the EPA Board of Inquiry, due out soon, to see how that process has worked.

"Public concerns, such as the impact on the recreational use of this beautiful waterway, should be placed ahead of the private profit, exclusive occupation and polluting rights of a foreign owned company," said Mr Browning.

"The Government has signalled that they want to see King Salmon's proposal succeed. That position cuts across the views of locals and the local council plan which prohibits aquaculture in the proposed space.

"We look forward to Leona's petition being directed to the parliamentary primary production select committee where future salmon farming in New Zealand can be further considered," said Mr Browning

<http://www.greens.org.nz/press-releases/epa-should-consider-public-opposition-polluting-salmon-farm-extension>

Campbell River Mirror, 11 December 2012

Salmon farmers help fill Campbell River food bank shelves



Rob Spiers (from left), Brock Thomson and Andrew Isenor show off the \$1,200 in cash and truckload of canned food raised for the Campbell River Food Bank at Mainstream Canada's Dec. 8 Christmas party

Mainstream Canada employees had a lot of fun raising \$1,200 in cash and a pick-up truck full of canned food for the Campbell River food bank this weekend.

They raised the money at the company Christmas party on Dec. 8, where a new tradition was born: the annual Mainstream Canada Christmas Charity Auction. Dozens of prizes, from ski passes to slow cookers, were wrapped and bagged up and put on the auction table. But there was a catch — no one knew what they were bidding on!

The auction started to resemble an episode of “Storage Wars” as the competition for potentially great prizes got fierce, and the bids got higher and higher.

By the time the last prize was gone, the auctioneers had collected an even \$1,200 in cash for the Campbell River Food Bank, along with enough canned food to fill a truck (people could bid using cash or canned goods). The auction was such a huge success it will likely become an annual Christmas tradition for Mainstream Canada.

<http://www.campbellrivermirror.com/community/183081581.html>

Napa Valley Register, 11 December 2012

Misconceptions about farmed fish

The letter from Gabriela Salva (“Farmed and dangerous: the dish about fish,” Nov. 30) was so full of untruths that it is an unwarranted attack on thousands of hard-working people who grow sustainable and healthy seafood. I plan to bust just a few myths in her letter:

Myth — There are “2 million aquaculture lots” in the Pacific Northwest.

Fact — There are several hundred salmon hatcheries and about 80 farms.

Myth — Aquaculture fish are “constantly doused with antibiotics.”

Fact — Most aquaculture fish receive an effective vaccination and are closely monitored by a veterinarian. As a result, medicinal use in aquaculture is rare — and unlike most other food growers, this information is available to consumers online.

Myth — Consumption of aquaculture fish “increases heart disease.”

Fact — The American Heart Foundation recommends eating fish (particularly fatty fish rich in Omega-3s) two times per week, and this includes farm-raised salmon.

Myth — Aquaculture farms have “crammed conditions.”

Fact — Fish naturally “school.” Fish farmed in the ocean are given ample room to range and raised at low densities that ensure the fish are stress-free.

To insist that “America be aquaculture-free” is akin to asking that all terrestrial agriculture cease. Seafood is healthy, and as our population grows, wild creatures in our lakes and oceans (like on land) cannot keep up with demand.

Aquaculture — growing catfish in freshwater ponds in Mississippi and ocean ranching salmon in Alaska and farming salmon in British Columbia — plays a vital role in providing healthy food and conserving our lakes and oceans.

I would encourage Ms. Salva to learn more about aquaculture before scaring people away from a healthy and sustainable food choice.

Ian Roberts, Salmon farmer / Campbell River, British Columbia

http://napavalleyregister.com/news/opinion/mailbag/misconceptions-about-farmed-fish/article_5fb2c4de-440e-11e2-98d9-001a4bcf887a.html?comment_form=true

Fish Farming Xpert, 11 December 2012

Opposition mounts to super-sized fish farm in Galway Bay

IRELAND: A new organisation has been launched in Galway to oppose the creation of a large-scale fish farm in the area.

Galway anglers came together at a meeting last Monday night in Claregalway to form Galway Against Fish Farms (GAF), which will fight the massive new salmon farm being proposed by Bord Iascaigh Mhara for Galway Bay, the Galway Independent reports

GAF claims the proposed farm has the potential to cause massive pollution to the bay and to wipe out salmon and sea trout stocks in local rivers.

The group also condemned the way in which this project is being promoted by BIM, accusing them of trying to “push through an application for a farm which would, in one fell swoop, double the entire country’s production of farmed salmon”.

“This would then be franchised to a private operator, most likely Marine Harvest, a Norwegian company, and all the profits will be diverted abroad, while Galway Bay and its residents take all the environmental risk,” said a spokesperson.

However, a spokesperson for BIM said that the proposed farm had been “well researched” using ecological, modelling and hydrographic data supplied by the Marine Institute of Ireland, adding that Ireland’s salmon farming sector would still be “extremely small” in comparison to other countries.

They also vigorously denied claims that it had not engaged with the public on the project, saying the organisation had gone to “considerable lengths” to consult widely with local stakeholders.

“It is not fair to say that this proposed development would damage angling. Scotland has a salmon farming industry ten times bigger than Ireland. Norway has a salmon farming industry nearly 1000 times bigger than Ireland. They both have large salmon and trout sport angling sectors as well. The two activities can coexist successfully,” said the spokesperson to the Galway Independent.

http://fishfarmingxpert.com/index.php?page_id=76&article_id=97124

GAAIA, 10 December 2012



"Nature has struck back and said 'No More!' - Noel Carr on Salmon Farms

Standing in front of one of Marine Harvest's brood-stock facilities in Fanad Head, Ireland, wild salmon and sea trout advocate Noel Carr speaks to Don Staniford about the troubles that plague wild salmon and sea trout from the salmon farm industry and how nature has "struck back" with outbreaks of amoebic gill disease in the farms.

He is one of many who is deeply concerned about the disaster of salmon farms and opposing the application by the Irish government for a 15,000 "organic" salmon farm.

Go to <http://www.nosalmonfarmsatsea.com/> to join the efforts to stop the disaster of salmon farm expansion.

Watch online via: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X6Ar1SSYn88>

GAAIA, 10 December 2012



N. Ireland Anglers Want Filthy Fish Farms OUT!

Standing by the wild salmon bearing Glen Arm River, angler Mark Tierney speaks to Don Staniford about the importance of wild salmon and the need to oppose salmon farm operations in Northern Ireland.

One of the anglers then takes us out to where a nearby salmon farm is expanding, where Don Staniford explains the problems the farms has been having with disease and parasites.

Go to <http://www.nosalmonfarmsatsea.com/> to join the efforts to stop the expansion of salmon farms at sea and to protect wild salmon.

Watch online via <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IS2LNwxwFUY>

Outer Hebrides Against Fish Farms, 8 December 2012

Biggest enemy to the future of fish farming is itself

Our reply to last week's leader comment in the West Highland Free Press:

Biggest threat to fish farming is its own unwillingness to adopt sustainable production

IT IS A shame that the **WHFP** did not choose to read our policy statements, readily available on our website, before writing last week's leader comment.

Your leader writer was correct in identifying the fact that fish farming is a long-standing part of the west coast economy, and it is not likely to disappear soon.

The Outer Hebrides Against Fish Farms campaign is a campaign against unsustainable, open net fish farming, and not against fish farming in all forms.

We advocate that the industry adopts the viable and sustainable alternative production methods, particularly closed containment, that are available, and which would put an

end to the environmental interactions, harm and fish welfare issues that currently plague the industry.

The reality is that the biggest threat the fish farming industry in the Outer Hebrides and elsewhere faces is not from anti-fish farm campaigners but from its own unwillingness to adopt sustainable production methods, and there is no better example of this than in the statements in the press last week from Stewart McLelland, CEO of the Scottish Salmon Company.

Mr McLelland admitted that the company's starkly declining revenues stem from the amoebic gill disease and other biological challenges prevalent across the industry that have led to more fish deaths,

WHFP 7.12.12

lower growth and increased production costs for salmon farmers.

These problems are the biggest threat to the long-term future of aquaculture, and the industry itself will be responsible for the loss of jobs and the harm to the economy locally that will follow when it is forced to cease production due to disease and pollution, and if it does not alter its production processes.

Sadly, meantime, fish farming as SEPA figures show, is polluting our seas and sea beds, and creating real risk to wild fish through increasingly uncontrollable

sea lice infestations.

Finally, expansions in the number of fish farm sites, and in overall production, have not resulted in increased employment. Increasing automation of fish farm sites has meant that employment in the production side of the industry has remained pretty much static throughout the period of industry growth.

PETER URPETH

Outer Hebrides Against Fish Farms

BACK

ISLE OF LEWIS

<https://fishfarmsout.wordpress.com/2012/12/08/biggest-enemy-to-the-future-of-fish-farming-is-itself/>

Outer Hebrides Against Fish Farms, 8 December 2012

[Fact dodging not good enough, SSC](#)

Last week's Donald Trump-like rant in the Stornoway Gazette and Press & Journal by Scottish Salmon Company's Chief Operating Officer, Stewart McLelland, tried to paint those who oppose his polluting ways as 'bitter'. Sadly, whilst focussing so sharply on absurd personalisations, he forgot to make any comment about the facts that confronted him in our press release. Facts such as why nearly 60% of SSC's SEPA inspected fish farms were found 'unsatisfactory' when it comes to sea bed pollution.

Here's our reply in this week's Stornoway Gazette. The full text of our letter is in the Campaign Press Releases section of this website.

Sustainable aquaculture

STYBAE
6/12/12

Stewart McLelland's Trump-like rant in last week's Gazette was wholly inaccurate, and it is very worrying that the CEO of a company with such grave responsibility for the stewardship of the environment should refuse to address a single point of fact we raised in our press release.

Yes, we dare to question him on what his company is doing and what is happening at local fish farms, and instead of answering the points raised he opts to construct a smokescreen of personalisation and lame caricature that will fool no one.

Mr McLelland also knows that this campaign has never and would never engage in criticism of individual fish farm workers. They are simply following their obligations as employees to a standard set by management.

If Mr McLelland had even bothered to read

the readily available information about this campaign group, he would have known that we do not want a cessation of the industry locally. But shooting the messenger rather than addressing the facts is clearly how he plans to avoid the awkward truth, and we can tell him straight, it won't work. Only the sustainable production methods we propose will give his industry the chance of a long term future, and the means securing jobs, too.

His company signs up to a code of guidance on good practice in farm fish production, established by the industry itself, and does so in order to secure planning permission for new sites. But that code of guidance is both ineffective and, due to such factors as the rapid spread of disease and the ineffectiveness of treatments for infestations, impossible for fish farmers to implement.

The reality is that the biggest threat the fish farming industry in the Outer Hebrides faces is not from anti-fish farm campaigners but from its own unwillingness to adopt sustainable production methods.

There are viable alternatives to the open net systems his company uses and which, if adopted, will secure employment and give the industry a the chance of a sustainable long-term future.

Amoebic gill disease and other biological challenges prevalent across the industry are the biggest threat to the long-term future of aquaculture, and the industry itself will be responsible for the loss of jobs and the harm to the economy locally that will follow when it is forced to cease production.

Mr McLelland clearly thinks it is wrong for people to care about the impact his methods will have on the environment and the economy, but why should he care? When it all goes wrong here he and his Norwegian shareholders can do what fish farmers have done across the globe, and move on to waters anew without a single consideration for local

<http://fishfarmsout.wordpress.com/tag/scottish-salmon-company/>

Fish Farming Xpert, 7 December 2012

High abundances of sea lice in Melinka

Chile: Seven farming sites in the neighborhood "18A" have an average parasitic abundance equal or higher than 9 adult lice per fish. These farming sites are located in the Melinka area, which is the northern part of the Region of Aysén.

Christian Pérez

Between the weeks 42nd and 48th of this year, 33 farming sites have been reported as with an average abundance of adult lice (*Caligus rogercresseyi*) per fish equal or higher than 9 parasites per fish according to the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Service (Sernapesca) .

These sites, known as Sites of Large Spread or CAD, are evenly spread in the regions of Aysén (17) and Los Lagos (16). However, 7 of those farming sites are concentrated in just one neighborhood consisting of 14 farming sites total.

From the 33 total CAD in Chile, only 7 sites were farming Rainbow trout, while the rest was stocked with Atlantic salmon. Meanwhile, 4 CAD were being harvested last week, while the other 29 sites were in the process of fattening fish.

http://fishfarmingxpert.com/index.php?page_id=76&article_id=97095

Undercurrent News, 7 December 2012

Chile salmon farmers 'losing close to \$1.50' a kilo



Eva Tallaksen, Neil Ramsden

Chilean salmon producers are losing almost \$1.50 per kilo on fresh fillets sent to the US, said the Nordea analyst Kolbjorn Giskeodegard.

“The massive oversupply as from mid-2012 has a disastrous impact on earnings for the Chilean salmon farmers as they are now in fact losing close to \$1.50 per kilo [of] salmon sent as fresh fillets to the US,” Giskeodegard wrote in an update on Dec. 6.

Ignacio Spencer, an analyst with IM Trust Chile, estimated the loss was closer to \$1 to \$1.20 per kilo.

Freezing the salmon and selling it to Europe is not a good alternative, Giskeodegard said. “The sales price there is not good enough to drive substantially better earnings.” He pointed out that prices in the US and Brazil have “more or less collapsed” as a result of the huge supply growth of 2012.

Both Aquachile and Multiexport Foods, Chile’s two largest salmon producers, have just released weak third quarter results. “The results were poor as expected,” Spencer told *Undercurrent News*. Both companies, and the entire sector at large, were affected by the low prices and higher costs due to high feed costs and higher mortality, especially in trout, he said.

The last quarter of 2012 is likely to be similarly weak, he said, but the situation could start looking up in the first quarter of 2013. In his view, the industry “will suffer, but they will survive”.

Global Atlantic salmon supply is forecast to be almost flat next year, with growth in Chile expected to slow down to around 20%.

Felix Heinrich, equity analyst at Pareto Securities, gave a broader analysis of the reason for the sharp drop in Chilean salmon prices. This reflects the fact that salmon is not as global a market as one might think, he argued.

“In my eyes this is the consequence of salmon not being an as global product as one might think. In other words, existing trade flows appear to be more persistent than commonly assumed,” Heinrich told *Undercurrent*. “With the ramp-up of the Chilean industry, Chile’s home markets (such as the US, Japan and Brazil) are therefore most ‘hit’ by lower prices.”

This drop in price has also affected Canadian producers, which have also been hit by higher costs than usual, Giskeodegard said. “This is hurting Marine Harvest as it also has hurt the other fish farmers in Canada.”

In his view the situation should ease next year as volumes decline. “We expect prices to pick up as volumes from Canada are expected to decline substantially during 2013.”

<http://www.undercurrentnews.com/2012/12/07/chilean-salmon-farmers-losing-close-to-1-50-per-kilo/>

Irish Examiner, 7 December 2012

Salmon farming can create jobs and protect environment

I refer to a letter carried by the Irish Examiner on Dec 5 from a Mr Marshall in the United States.

The letter in question is an unfortunate example of the heated, uninformed and over the top attack that does maximum damage to the image and credibility of genuine parties interested in conservation, local development and the environment.

If this is to be the level of debate that progressive modern food companies, industry regulators and scientists are expected to deal with, it should be no surprise to understand our frustration attempting to engage with a dogmatic and baseless stance where sound argument, the evidence of years of experience and the realities of modern fish rearing are completely ignored. Opposition for opposition's sake is unbecoming and unfair to the many people who may want to genuinely engage with the industry and put any valid queries to us to develop a better understanding on all sides. The inconvenient truth for those who have an irrational objection to investment and job creation is that salmon farming can provide employment and activity while also protecting the environment and enhancing Ireland's reputation as a food island abroad.

Richie Flynn
Executive, Irish Salmon Growers' Association
Irish Farm Centre
Bluebell, Dublin 12

<http://www.irishexaminer.com/opinion/letters/salmon-farming-can-create-jobs-and-protect-environment-216261.html>

Irish Examiner, 5 December 2012

Say no to organic salmon farming

I oppose the "organic" salmon farming scheme which is being considered for Galway Bay.

More jobs (and therefore income to the State) will be lost than gained because of the negative impact.

Tourism will gradually decline in the west of Ireland, and especially in Clare and Galway, because of the unsightly pen markers and the gradual awareness in the minds of the public that Galway Bay has become an "industrial" asset of big business rather than the natural asset it is now perceived as. Moreover, the cumulative effect of the effluent and detritus from the caged salmon, along with the inevitable escapes, will adversely affect wild salmon as well as lobsters, crabs and crustaceans in a wide area.

Local commercial fishermen will gradually be forced out of business and sport anglers and fly fishers will disappear. I recently spent considerable time in the Aran Islands and did not find anyone who said they favoured this proposal.

Are wild salmon bathed in hydrogen peroxide or other more toxic chemicals to remove sea lice? Or given antibiotics? Or fed chemicals to make their flesh pinker and therefore more marketable? Do wild salmon grow up confined unnaturally in pens where they have too much

food and have to swim in their own effluent? Farmed salmon are subjected to all these insults.

The 500-acre pens crowded with salmon will create significant pollution which will deter people from swimming in the bay and will negatively impact other natural attractions on the west coast.

The debris and pollution created by an operation of this size has been compared to the sewerage output of a city of 10,000 people.

The floor of the bay would be only 50 to 100 metres below the surface and would be extremely contaminated. The debris would not be confined to the area immediately below the pens but would move around the bay. In effect, the operation would amount to pumping raw sewerage into the areas close to the Cliffs of Moher and the mouth of Galway Bay. It is hard to think of a more detrimental environmental impact, other than a nuclear power plant leaking toxic waste.

This proposal constitutes one of the most egregious environmental threats Ireland has ever faced. The economic and cultural dangers are very significant and if not defeated, will permanently harm the economy, tourism, sporting and the reputation of Ireland for unspoiled natural beauty.

Thomas F Marshall
Pennington
New Jersey
US

<http://www.irishexaminer.com/opinion/letters/say-no-to-organic-salmon-farming-215971.html>

Inshore Ireland, December 2012

Galway fish farm plan on schedule despite 'campaign of dreadful information' – BIM

Galway Bay fish farm plan on schedule despite 'campaign of dreadful misinformation' – BIM

Gery Flynn

BIM has confirmed that its proposal to site a large salmon farm in deep water in Galway Bay remains on schedule despite what it claims is a concerted campaign of misinformation by some who oppose the project on the grounds of scale and long-term environmental impact.

Donald Maguire, BIM's Aquaculture Development Manager confirmed to *Inshore Ireland* that the Galway Bay proposal had already completed its Statutory Consultation phase and had almost come through its Public Consultation phase, which ends on December 12.

He added that this proposal was one of three that the agency would be submitting for a licence, and that it was also the first time they had undertaken a project of this type.

"Instead of the fish farming licence being given directly to a private company, we are applying for the licence which, if issued, we will then franchise to a commercial operator who will be required to adhere to rigorous EU and Irish conditions, as well as additional layers of strict requirements that BIM has set".

MINIMAL IMPACT

He said the Galway Bay site was substantially different from most "conventional farms" because it is 1.7km from the nearest land mass and located in deeper water — features which he claims will "minimise any negative environmental impact".

"This will ensure that the fish farm meets organic

standards and demonstrates a real commitment to sustainable production. And with a capacity to produce 15,000 tonnes of organic salmon per annum worth €102m, this proposal offers sustainable long-term jobs and would also inject up to €14.5m directly into the local economy of Aran and Connemara on an on-going basis."

As for where things now stand with the project, Maguire said he was "fully

satisfied" with progress so far. "Everything is on schedule."

"Submissions will be sent to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine who will forward them to us for our response. Submissions will be vetted by the State Scientist and will form the basis for the Minister's eventual decision, based on extensive EIS and scientific evidence."

Maguire revealed that BIM has deployed an expert team on the ground locally which

has already consulted with "a wide range of stakeholders and interested parties as well as with the communities on the Aran Islands and around Rossaveal".

DETAIL AND TRANSPARENCY

He was keen to point out also that from the beginning BIM has handled the entire information-sharing process "with the utmost attention to detail and with full transparency."

"We have tried very, very hard to involve as many people as possible. For example, we have already sent out nearly one thousand scoping letters, and have placed additional Environmental Impact Statements and other documentation around the Aran Islands and west Connemara. Non-technical summaries have also gone to every household on the islands

page 13



The Holy Ground, Cobh Co Cork, by Dave Keeley, overall winner of the 2012 An Taisce Clean Coasts Photography Award (See page 30)

<http://www.inshore-ireland.com/> and <http://app.emarketeer.com/ext/webpage/show.php?p=71789ae70b17d059c8cd17e5dbf3ce30fccbae>

Fish farm campaigner questioned



Don Staniford, an out-spoken campaigner against fish farms recently visited the Isle of Arran at the start of his campaign tour of the west of Scotland and Ireland. In an interview with Don, he was questioned on the sustainability of salmon fish farms, his international campaign and various court cases. We hope to bring you edited highlights of this interview along with an interview from a Scottish salmon farm producer in our next issue.

<http://www.arrancoast.com/news/current-newsletter/252-fish-farm-campaigner-questioned.html>

Watch an interview with COAST's Howard Wood online via "[Salmon Farm Disease Disaster in Lamlash Bay, Arran](#)"

Stornoway Gazette, 30 November 2012

Scottish Salmon Company asked to 'come clean'

A CALL to The Scottish Salmon Company to 'come clean' about the environmental damage of industrial fish-farming has been issued by the Outer Hebrides Against Fish Farm (OHAFF) campaign group ahead of the Company's public consultation meetings (December 4th and 5th) regarding new island facilities, writes Eilish Whiteford.

Armed with statistics gleaned from Freedom of Information requests, the OHAFF has issued its message to all Hebridean-based fish-farms to inform island public, consumers and planning authorities about disease and antibiotic challenges facing the industry; the growing inefficiency of medicines and chemical treatments; the 'appalling' record of fish farm pollution on island seabeds; and the industry's failure to comply with its own regulations.

"It is clear from the official figures obtained that the real picture is quite different to the planning documents," said OHAFF spokesman Peter Urpeth.

"There is worryingly high frequency of non-compliance with those guidelines, and growing evidence that the methods and chemicals available to fish farmers to deal with some of the most threats, especially sea lice infestations, are simply inadequate and being used at ever-increasing rates."

Against a myriad of data, the OHAFF present figures obtained from the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) through a Freedom of Information request by the Global Alliance Against Industrial Aquaculture in July this year which show that whilst fish farm production in Scotland has risen by 22% between 2008 and 2011, the use of toxic chemicals has increased by 110% over the same period.

The figures show that Azamethiphos - a chemical known to be lethal to

lobster, crabs, prawns and other crustaceans - was used by The Scottish Salmon Company on several occasions at its Western Isles sites in Crossbay, Stockinish and Trillickan Mor.

In response, The Scottish Salmon Company's CEO, Stewart McLellan said that the Company is 'open and transparent', works closely with SEPA, government agencies and wild fisheries to 'achieve common goals', as well as consulting with all parties interested in salmon farming to shape future investments.

Mr McLellan said, "On Harris and Lewis, The Scottish Salmon Company employs 100 people who live in the local community, all of whom care about their local environment and take pride in everything they do. They are responsible for an award winning operation at Loch Roag, for constantly pioneering new standards of environmental excellence and for producing a premium quality Hebridean salmon which is enjoyed the world over."

He added, "On the back of all that, it is especially disappointing that the work of our dedicated staff is dismissed in such a bitter and unfounded way by the OHAFF."

"This organisation is trying to create the impression of a new group uniting out against fish farms. But it is just a new name for a collection of individuals well-known for their undisguised hostility to fish farms."

"Having failed to damage the industry through their actions to date, they have established OHAFF. But rather than being a critical observer genuinely looking to improve the industry, this is just another vehicle for them to throw mud and hoping it will stick."

To find out more about the Outer Hebrides Against Fish Farm campaign, log onto www.fishfarmout.wordpress.com

<http://fishfarmsout.wordpress.com/2012/11/29/breaking-news/>

Read more via "[Fact dodging not good enough, SSC](#)" (Outer Hebrides Against Fish Farms, 8 December)

West Highland Free Press, 30 November 2012

editorial

Friday 30 November 2012

Like it or not, fish farming is here to stay

Fish farming in the Highlands and Islands is a young industry. Over the past 40 years it has made many mistakes and — as recent events prove — even more enemies.

It has also provided, and continues to provide, thousands of jobs and millions of pounds to the economy of the north-west of Scotland.

There are many things to regret about the development of salmon farming in this region during the last three to four decades. The Crown Estate issued leases like confetti, without consulting local communities let alone sharing the profits.

An original dream of small cages owned and run by individual crofters quickly died, not least because most crofters who tried it preferred to sell their assets on to large companies.

There have undoubtedly been mistakes made by aquaculturists in the treatment of fish diseases. So much attention continues to be paid by the Scottish Government's Fish Health Inspectorate to those diseases and their medication that the industry would be foolish to ignore the FHI's criticisms and recommendations. Apart from anything else, the marketing of Highland and Hebridean farmed salmon largely depends upon this region's unpolluted reputation.

But we are where we are. Even the Atlantic Salmon Trust, which is devoted to the promotion and wellbeing of wild salmon and sea-trout, accepts that "salmon farming is here to stay in Scotland".

The same is not being said by some of fish farming's zealous foes. They fall into several camps, most of which are to be found in the current controversies

around newly-proposed fish farms in Skye and Harris.

Some objectors want every single fish cage pulled out of Highland waters and destroyed. Some want those which might get in the way of creel or net fishing to be removed. Some object chiefly to the Norwegian-owned companies. Some riparian interests want to protect wild salmon runs. Others want only to protect the view from their living room.

The sensible opinion is, we suspect, the broad consensus. Most of us have come to live more or less happily with fish farms off our coast. We see them at worst as a part of the working landscape, and at best as a major employer. We notice no obvious environmental degradation in, say, Loch Alport in Skye, where one of the largest salmon farms in Europe has floated for 30 years.

Most of us have come to enjoy the ready availability of salmon as part of our diet — something that, 30 years ago, was not possible without running the risk of being mugged by a paramilitary estate bailiff. Most of us believe that any tensions between creelmen, anglers and fish farms should be resolved in a civilised manner, and not by one side demanding the extinction of the other.

And many of us, a good many, think of those thousands of local jobs, and of the ancillary benefits delivered by aquaculture. To take just one example (and there are many others): Salar hot-smoked salmon from South Uist, an internationally-renowned delicacy which is now part of the Loch Duart group, would never have emerged without Uist fish farming.

As the letters columns of this newspaper have reflected in the past few weeks, there is a debate to be held about the future direction of fish farming in the Highlands. That debate should not be dominated by fanatics. And nobody should imagine that fish farming can, or should, be made to disappear.

<http://fishfarmsout.wordpress.com/2012/11/29/breaking-news/>

Read more via "[Biggest enemy to the future of fish farming is itself](#)" (Outer Hebrides Against Fish Farms, 8 December)

CABI, 30 November 2012

Debate over Infectious Salmon Anaemia Virus in Wild Fish

Miroslav Djuric, DVM

Infectious salmon anaemia virus (ISAV) is a pathogen of marine-farmed Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*). However, ISAV can be transmitted experimentally to fish in fresh water. Outbreaks are restricted to Atlantic salmon but other salmonids may harbour the virus and act as reservoirs. ISAV remains an emerging fish pathogen because of the asymptomatic infections in marine wild fish. Natural outbreaks are usually chronic, lasting for several

months and mortality varies between 15-100%.



Diagnosis is based on characteristic gross pathology and light microscopy, anaemia and absence of pathogenic bacteria. Supporting diagnosis of the virus is achieved by culture on the salmon head kidney cell line (SHK-1), a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test or enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA).²

ISAV was first diagnosed in southwest Norway in 1984 and has since been diagnosed in Canada, Scotland, the USA, the Faeroe Islands and Chile. The first outbreak of ISAV in marine-farmed Atlantic salmon in the Southern hemisphere occurred in Chile in 2007.

An outbreak in Scotland that spread over a wide geographic area with transported fish and harvest vessels in 1998-1999 was eradicated at a cost of over £20 Million.¹

More recently, the presence of ISAV was reported in samples from wild sockeye salmon from British Columbia in October 2011, however, that report is disputed by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). The samples that showed that ISAV was present in two of 48 sockeye salmon smolts from the Pacific coast of Canada were sent for analysis by Professor Rick Routledge, of Simon Fraser University, according to media reports. It is unclear whether those samples were analysed as a part of regular health controls, which are mandatory in some countries, or because an infection was suspected. The samples were analysed at the Atlantic Veterinary College (AVC) in Charlottetown, Canada. This lab is run by Dr Kibenge and is one of the only two reference labs nominated by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) as its reference lab for infectious salmon anaemia virus. The other reference lab is located at the National Veterinary Institute in Oslo, Norway and is run by Dr Sindre.

After Dr Kibenge's findings were made public, the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans conducted its own tests and said that those tests were verified by an independent lab in Norway - both concluded that ISAV was not present in British Columbia. However, the details of how many samples were examined or whether those samples were the same samples that were tested at the AVC are unclear. The CFIA also promised to sample around 8000 salmon in British Columbia in response to concerns about ISAV, however the results of those tests are not yet known.

Meantime, Dr Kibenge's lab was audited twice, first by the CFIA in November 2011, and then by an independent panel appointed by the Canadian government and the OIE in August 2012. The first audit raised concerns about possible cross contamination of samples, whereas

the second audit concluded that his lab “fell well short of acceptable quality standards. However, Dr Kibenge said he stands by his findings.

Chief food safety officer for the CFIA, Brian Evans, then wrote to the OIE, requesting that the OIE act in accordance with the audit findings, and “place the reference laboratory status at the Atlantic Veterinary College in abeyance.”

The letter has surprised other experts, who worry the government is trying to silence a scientist whose findings the CFIA disputes. The CFIA has long maintained infectious salmon anaemia is not present on the West Coast, but if the disease is confirmed by the government, it could lead to severe restrictions of salmon export.

The OIE issued a statement on Tuesday (27 November 2012) saying it conducted an audit of a lab at the Atlantic Veterinary College in Prince Edward Island and found “a series of weaknesses in the system [that] have a direct impact on the quality of diagnosis conducted by AVC.” The OIE also said that the conclusions of its audit will be reported to its elected governing bodies and finally, to its World Assembly of Delegates, in May 2013. “OIE will take no official action before this,” the statement said.

Such a decision by the OIE should give more time to everyone involved to conduct more research, which should shed more light on the presence or absence of ISAV in wild salmon in British Columbia. In the best case scenario this stand-off may lead to a more informed debate on the future of open water fish farming.

Further reading:

1. [Murray AG.](#), [Smith RJ.](#), [Stagg RM.](#) (2002): Shipping and the spread of infectious salmon anemia in Scottish aquaculture. *Emerging Infectious Diseases* 2002 Vol. 8 No. 1 pp. 1-5.
2. Woo PTK., Bruno DW., Lim LHS. (2002): [Diseases and Disorders of Finfish in Cage Culture](#). CABI Publishing, Wallingford, UK. ISBN 0 85199 443 1.

http://cabiblog.typepad.com/hand_picked/2012/11/infectious-salmon-anaemia-virus-in-wild-fish-and-other-fishy-matters.html

Scotland on Sunday, 18 November 2012

The struggles facing the fish farming industry

By Alastair Robertson

It's not looking good for fish farming, although, on the Government's past performance, the industry has a better than average chance of getting away with it.

Not only is the industry dealing with a major outbreak of Amoebic Gill Disease (AGD), which has been suffocating thousands of tonnes of farmed salmon all across the West Highlands and the Hebrides, it is now faced with a heavyweight scientific report which says fish farm sea lice are killing wild salmon to a far greater degree than previously believed.

But back to AGD, which the industry insists, is caused by a naturally occurring parasite; naturally occurring in the same way TB, cholera and typhus are naturally occurring. They only become a serious problem in densely populated environments. So far the only treatment is disinfection with hydrogen peroxide, better known as a hair dye. Pretty desperate stuff.

Fortunately for the industry AGD is not a notifiable disease so it doesn't have to tell the Government how many fish it has killed or which farms have it.

In the meantime, the RSPCA's quality control organisation, Freedom Food, is asking its fish farm members to be so good as to notify the Government if they have an un-notifiable disease. Who are they kidding with their logos and fish welfare mission statements?

Much harder to hide is the international report on sea lice. It has finally nailed the lie that lice from salmon farms have a negligible effect on wild salmon and sea trout. The industry's immediate reaction was to say the report was at odds with previous studies. The trouble with this line is that it is precisely these studies the marine biologists have been going over to reach their latest and most damning conclusion.

Fortuitously the report is in time for consideration by the Rural Affairs, Climate Change and Environment Committee at Holyrood, which is currently trawling through the Aquaculture and Fisheries Bill.

But don't for a moment expect anything to change, even if the committee does recommend a tightening of controls. Remember; as soon as the bill's proposals were published the industry attacked, declaring that new strictures on the industry in the West Highlands would return the area to an economic wasteland.

Terrified, the Government watered down the objectionable bits. For all the evidence that fish farm lice seriously affect wild salmon stocks, we can be assured that the bill, when finally enacted, will contain only the feeblest of constraints on the industry. The phrases "light touch on the tiller" and "self regulation" come to mind. And we all know where they got us.

<http://www.scotsman.com/lifestyle/features/shooting-fishing-the-struggles-facing-the-fish-farming-industry-1-2643743>

Farmed & Dangerous, Fall 2012

Retailers Taking Action on Farmed Salmon

The last few months have seen some exciting developments at your local supermarkets. Overwaita Food [Group \(OFG\) announced in June the removal of all open net-cage farmed salmon from their stores](#) – the first major retailer in Canada to take this step. OFG offers instead a ["Best Choice" ranked](#) 'SweetSpring' closed containment farmed salmon. These accomplishments are part of OFG's collaboration work with the [SeaChoice](#) program.



Closed Containment Atlantic Salmon in Whole Foods

Meanwhile, [closed containment Atlantic salmon](#) is also making its debut at Whole Foods under the brand 'Icelandic Salmon'.

And finally, in the past week Canada Safeway rolled out new in-store signage at the fresh seafood counters to help shoppers purchase ocean-friendly seafood. Also working with the SeaChoice program, Canada Safeway has committed to transitioning red-ranked seafood including open net-cage farmed salmon, [to sustainable alternatives by 2015](#). Perhaps not long at all before Safeway joins OFG and Whole Foods in selling closed containment farmed salmon!

<http://www.farmedanddangerous.org/fall-2012-eneews/>

Global News Archive:

News updates are now archived and available in full – [online here!](#)

Global News Updates include the '[Salmon Wars](#)' raging against filthy feedlots in Canada, Chile, Norway, Scotland, Ireland, New Zealand, United States and Australia:

12 December - Global News Update: “Feck Off to Fish Farms”/“GM Salmon May Sink”/“ISA Allegations”/“Seal-Shooting Salmon Farmers”/“Opposition Mounts” – [online here](#)

21 November - “Showdown Looming”/“Fish Farm Fight”/“A Difficult 2013 Forecast”/“Devastating Impact” – [online here](#)

13 November - “Suffocating the Sounds”/“Skye Waters Against”/“Lice Death Claims”/“Battle Norwegian Fish Farms” – [online here](#)

7 November - “Flesh-Eating Lice”/“Chlamydia & Gill Disease”/“Strong Opposition”/“Risky Salmon Farms”/“Scotland’s Salmon Wars” - [online here](#)

2 November - “Flying the Flag”/“Cohen Report”/“Curb Fish Farm Impact”/“Loggerheads” - [online here](#)

1 November - “Justice Cohen Gets Tough”/“Freeze On Farms”/“Cross-Appeal Vs Cermaq” - [online here](#)

31 October - “Watch Live”/“Cohen Report Tracker”/“Flying the Flag”/“Report Released Today” - [online here](#)

30 October - “Here Comes Cohen!”/“Probe Shows Need for Reform”/“Uncalled-for Attack”/“Respected Scientist” - [online here](#)

28 October - “Deadline Looms”/“Mystery Illness”/“Mass Sickness”/“Not Defamatory Enough” - [online here](#)

23 October - “Halt Fish Farm Growth”/“Disease Hits Cermaq”/“Like Cancer”/“Is Truth a Tactic?”- [online here](#)

18 October - “Teen Fights Salmon Farms”/“Lawsuit Threat”/“Cermaq Appeal”/“Health Indicators Worsen” – [online here](#)

15 October - “Sicko Salmon”/“Farms & Disease”/“PR Disaster”/“Passionate Pleas” – [online here](#)

3 October - “Salmonella Outbreak”/Activist Wins”/“Boaties Protest”/“Lynch Mob” - [online here](#)

28 September - “Judgment Day”/“Salmon Sludge Fouls Hearing”/“Students Oppose Farms” - [online here](#)

24 September - “Flotilla Protest”/“Shooting Seals Row”/“Farm Not Welcome” - [online here](#)

11 September - “Dirty Secrets”/“FishyLeaks: Toxic Toilets”/“Disease Risk” - [online here](#)

29 August - “Virus Trackers”/“Compensation Culture”/“Say No to 9 New Salmon Farms” - [online here](#)

8 August - “Legal Strategy”/“Wave of Controversy”/“IHN Virus” - [online here](#)

3 August - “Fatal Virus Detected in BC”/“Fish Farm Quarantined” - [online here](#)

31 July - “IHN Virus Spreads”/“Norway’s Olympic Mascot”/“Playing With Fire” - [online here](#)

20 July - “Norwegian Fish Farm Virus Found in BC”/“ISA Confirmed”/“A Fishy Tale” - [online here](#)

17 July - “FishyLeaks”/“ISA in BC”/“Scotland’s Secrets” - [online here](#)

