

## Press Update – 21 November 2012

### **“Showdown Looming”/“Fish Farm Fight”/“A Difficult 2013 Forecast”/“Devastating Impact”**

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

“[Showdown looming over future of fish farming in Bantry Bay](#)” (West Cork Times, 21 November)

“[Santa's "My Little Salmon Farmer" Seal Culler Kit!](#)” (Green Around the Gills, 21 November)

“[Scottish fish farm invests £100,000](#)” (World Fishing & Aquaculture, 21 November)

“[Fish farming's 'public enemy No 1' to boost Bantry campaign](#)” (Irish Examiner, 20 November)

“[The Fish Farm Fight](#)” (Alexandra Morton, 20 November)

“[A difficult 2013 forecast for salmon firms](#)” (FIS, 20 November)

“[Marine Harvest continues wild salmon research](#)” (Campbell River Mirror, 20 November)

“[Marine Harvest's Bad Case of Chemical Use](#)” (GAAIA, 20 November)

“[Fit for the Queen - Loch Duart's Chlamydia-Contaminated Salmon?](#)” (Green Around the Gills, 19 November)

“[B.C. urged not to renew leases for salmon farms](#)” (Times Colonist, 18 November)

“[Missed a few facts/Base decisions on science](#)” (The Chronicle Herald, 17 November)

“[One step forward with fish farms](#)” (The Common Sense Canadian, 17 November)

“[Salmon farming comes ashore: Fish grown in closed containment systems offer big environmental advantages, proponents say](#)” (The Vancouver Sun, 17 November)

“[Environmental pressure creates demand for sustainable fish](#)” (The Vancouver Sun, 17 November)

“[Salmon Farms Displace Fishermen in Scotland](#)”/“[Future of Fishing Compromised by Fish Farms](#)” (GAAIA, 17 November)

“[Wild salmon stocks 'wiped out' by sea lice](#)” (The Irish Independent, 16 November)

“[Lobby puts fish farming in the spotlight](#)” (West Highland Free Press, 16 November)

“[Growth of fish farming around Skye "should be vehemently opposed"](#)” (West Highland Free Press, 16 November)

[“Kurt Oddekalv on Salmon Farms in Scotland”](#) (GAAIA, 15 November)

[“Glenarm Salmon Seals China Deal”](#) (4NI, 15 November)

[“Sea Lice Pose Significant Threat to Wild Salmon Says New Research”](#) (Afloat, 15 November)

[“Devastating impact on Wild Salmon populations from Sea Lice”](#) (Inland Fisheries Ireland, 15 November)

[“Something fishy”](#) (The Scotsman, 15 November)

[“Treating farmed salmon for sea lice prevents transfer to wild fish”](#) (The Globe & Mail, 15 November)

[“Salmon health could be improved with timed lice treatment”](#) (The Province/The Canadian Press, 15 November)

[“Investigation of the Recall of Costco Smoked Salmon”](#) (PR Web, 14 November)

[“B.C. urged to not renew leases for open-net salmon farms”](#) (Vancouver Sun, 14 November)

[“Dzawada'enuxw First Nation to Christy Clark: Don't renew fish farm licences”](#) (The Tyee, 13 November)

[“Wild salmon are doomed without policy changes”](#) (The Vancouver Sun, 13 November)

[“Chefs like it, but will investors buy into land-farmed salmon?”](#) (Intrafish, 13 November)

[“Release the Hormones: rBGH and GE salmon?”](#) (Food & Water Watch, 9 November)

[“Perennial naysayers”](#) (Campbell River Mirror, 9 November)

[“Mull fin fish farm approved after local hearing”](#) (Fish Update, 7 November)

Including from [The Vancouver Sun](#) (15 November):

“In a statement, Molina Dawson of the Dzawada'enuxw First Nation from Kingcome Inlet said: "I know without a doubt that the cost to our wild salmon — and everything that relies on them — isn't worth it. So, as long as the government and fish farm companies are actively endangering our fish they will not be getting any support from me.”

“Said Alexandra Morton, an independent salmon researcher: "Cohen states that if salmon farms have more than minimal risk of serious harm, they should cease operations. We are well past minimum risk.”

From John Robins of Animal Concern writing in [The Scotsman](#) (15 November):

“These floating factory fish farms are a blight on our environment and cause pollution of the seabed, infestations of sea lice on the migratory routes of sea trout and wild salmon plus the deliberate killing of seals.”

Elena Edwards, a campaigner for Wild Salmon First who is visiting Norwegian-owned salmon farms in Scotland & Ireland, [said](#): "May the global voices for wild salmon unite to deliver the message to Norway that Norwegian salmon farms are not welcome and must go!"



"The flag and declaration will be travelling to Scotland and Ireland to support efforts to stop Norwegian owned salmon farms from killing wild salmon," continued Edwards. "The more names on the flag the stronger the message which will be brought to Norway next year. Your voice matters!"

Sign the Declaration and view more details via <http://www.wildsalmonfirst.org/>

Support Alexandra Morton's testing for salmon diseases – please [donate online here now!](#)

gofundme The easy way to raise money online.  [Help](#) [Sign Up](#) [Donate](#)

## Salmon Disease Testing

**Salmon Disease Testing Fund**

Raised: \$36,500.00      Goal: \$100,000.00

Created by **Alexandra Morton**  
3021 Friends

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*Last fall we began testing salmon in BC for European viruses spreading worldwide in Atlantic salmon farms, which import millions of eggs into places like BC an... more*

[gofundme.com/SalmonDisea](http://gofundme.com/SalmonDisea) [Like](#) 393

[Pin it](#) [Tweet](#) 52 [Email](#) 57

**DONATE!**

Sign a petition calling on supermarkets to stop selling disease-ridden farmed salmon – [sign online here!](#)

change.org [Start a Petition](#) [Browse Petitions](#) [Find](#) [Login or Sign Up](#)

Petitioning CEO - Safeway

### COSTCO, Safeway & Loblaws: Please stop selling diseased farm salmon!

**Sign this petition**  
with 14,018 supporters

982 NEEDED

First Name

Last Name

Email

Postal Code  Spain

Why is this important to you?

**SIGN**

Display my signature publicly

By signing, you accept Change.org's terms of service and privacy policy.

Best fishes,

Don

Remember: Global News Updates are now archived and available in full [online here!](#)

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West Cork Times, 21 November 2012

Showdown looming over future of fish farming in Bantry Bay



Marine Harvest says the expansion will create jobs in Bantry Bay.

BANTRY is set to become the centre for the showdown between those who are for or against the future development of salmon farming in the bay.

On Friday November 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Maritime Hotel in Bantry will see what the organisers hope will be a large turn out to demonstrate against Marine Harvest's proposed new salmon farming development of Shot Head.

“At our last protest meeting, which was held in Glengarriff at the beginning of the summer we had over 200 concerned Beara residents showing their united support against Marine Harvest.

“We then sent out over 7,000 leaflets to all the residents around Bantry Bay and the response we have received has been incredible,” the Save Bantry Bay committee chairman Kieran O’Shea said.

The Save Bantry Bay (SBB) committee also wrote to every TD in the Dáil looking for their support.

“We cited not only European legislation intended to protect wild salmon, but the loss of fishing grounds, the increased pollution, the negative effect on the local shellfish industry, the potential destruction caused to the six local salmon rivers, and of course the effect this new salmon farm will have on tourism in the area,” Mr O’Shea continued.

The meeting at the Maritime Hotel will be addressed by international anti-fish farming campaigner Don Staniford.

Mr Staniford was recently cleared by British Columbia’s Supreme Court of defamation charges after he ran a campaign linking cancer from cigarette smoking to cancer from farmed salmon.

He has been described by aquaculture trade media as salmon farming’s “public enemy number one”.

Also speaking will be Elena Edwards of the Canadian Wild Salmon First campaign and Dr Roderick O’Sullivan, the author of the first study on salmon farming in Ireland in 1989.

“Minister for the Marine, Simon Coveney appears to have forgotten the Bantry Bay Charter agreed by the representatives of the stakeholders in the area, including local interests and

regulatory bodies, which recognised ‘the valid opinions and perspectives of all the interests in the area’ and requires ‘at least a broad-based consensus for any future developments’ SBB secretary Alec O’Donovan concluded.

The SBB protest meeting at the Marine Hotel begins at 7.30pm on Friday November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

<http://westcorktimes.com/home/?p=13651>

Green Around the Gills, 21 November 2012

Santa's "My Little Salmon Farmer" Seal Culler Kit!



Santa Claus today (21 November) launched a new range of salmon farming themed toys aimed at getting the serious message across that people who buy Scottish salmon this Christmas will pay for bullets to shoot seals.



Watch a video report [online here!](#)

# Fish Farmer Toy in the Stocking for Xmas

Don Staniford

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The toys included plush toy dead seals with official “Scot Gov” death certificates.



A series of “My Little Salmon Farmer” action figures and accessories including rifles, bullets, chemical drums and “Scot Gov” seal shooting licences were also unveiled.



For the Christmas dinner table there were packs of “Loch Stour™” salmon produced in a floating factory farm situated at the end of the Yellow Brick Road a few miles beyond Brigadoon. Food writer Joanna Blythman was on hand to taste one of the first samples.



John Robins of Animal Concern and Save Our Seals Fund said at the press conference: "Our politicians have been pushing the industry into the Chinese market without a thought to the damage the expansion of salmon farming will cause to our marine habitat and the creatures which inhabit it. There should be a halt to the expansion of salmon farming at least until a full assessment has been made of the environmental consequences."

**This Christmas and Hogmanay, if you are thinking of buying Scottish salmon, including RSPCA endorsed Scottish salmon, please think again. Sadly when you buy Scottish salmon you are very likely to be paying for bullets to shoot seals. It doesn't look very festive, does it?**



"We could poison our sea lochs for a couple of years profit and then see the industry collapse when the Chinese Government, which stopped buying salmon from Norway after Norway awarded the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize to Chinese dissident Liu Xiaobo, either start producing their own salmon or realise that most salmon farms in Scotland are owned by Norwegians."



Following the press conference, Santa hand-delivered a letter to the Scottish Government's office in Edinburgh.



Santa's merry little helpers made their voices heard outside the Scottish Government with a chant of "Stop Shooting Seals!"



Read article in full via: <http://donstaniford.typepad.com/my-blog/2012/11/santas-my-little-salmon-farmer-seal-culler-kit-.html>

World Fishing & Aquaculture, 21 November 2012

Scottish fish farm invests £100,000

Scotland's most northerly fish farm is investing nearly £100,000 in a project aimed at protecting stocks from seals, reports John Kinsman.

Balta Island Seafare (BIS) operates four sites off Unst, the most northerly Shetland Island.

Set up in 1987 and now employing just six people, BIS produces most of its organic-certified fish for markets in mainland Europe.

Although the remote location is ideal for growing salmon, there are also major challenges to overcome, including severe weather conditions and seal attacks.

BIS's new project involves the replacement of traditional nylon nets with ones made from stronger modern fibres.

Electronic seal scaring devices are also being installed in an effort to keep hungry predators away.

Christopher Ritch, of BIS said: "We have had some success deterring seals with electronic scarers. These new scarers should exclude seals from an even bigger area around the salmon cages.

"Together with the stronger nets, I think this will go a long way towards allowing us to farm in harmony with the local nature and keep the company growing".

David Priest from Highlands and Islands Enterprise (one of the backers of the project) said: "Fish farming is a major part of the Shetland economy and estimated to be worth £130 million. The loss of stock from seals not only damages the business, but escaped farm salmon can also cause environmental damage by threatening the wild salmon population. The new nets and equipment installed by Balta Island Seafare will protect these wild stocks while increasing the profitability of the business."

<http://www.worldfishing.net/news101/scottish-fish-farm-invests-100,000>

Irish Examiner, 20 November 2012

Fish farming's 'public enemy No 1' to boost Bantry campaign

By Eoin English

An international activist dubbed salmon farming's "public enemy number one" is set to boost the campaign against two major fish farming projects off the south and west coasts.

Anti-fish farming campaigner Don Staniford is expected to draw a large crowd to a protest meeting in Bantry on Friday, the Save Bantry Bay group said.

The local action group was set up to oppose Marine Harvest expansion plans in Bantry Bay.

The fish farm company wants to develop a 100-acre site at Shot Head and has lodged an application for a foreshore and aquaculture licence with the Department of the Marine.

Save Bantry Bay is fighting the project, citing concerns about the farm's impact on water quality, wildlife, angling, fishing, tourism, shipping navigation and water sports.

But the campaign group is now also harnessing growing opposition to a Bord Iascaigh Mhara proposal for a super salmon farm in Galway Bay which it says would double the national production of farmed salmon.

The group has invited Mr Staniford to address Friday's meeting as it steps up its campaign. Mr Staniford has been described by the aquaculture trade media as salmon farming's "public enemy number one". He was recently cleared by British Columbia's Supreme Court of defamation charges after he ran a series of shock ads linking cancer from cigarette smoking to cancer from farmed salmon.

He will be joined at the meeting by Elena Edwards of the Canadian Wild Salmon First campaign and by Dr Roderick O'Sullivan, the author of the first study on salmon farming in Ireland in 1989.

A spokesperson for Marine Harvest said it had no comment to make ahead of the meeting.

Save Bantry Bay say they expect people to travel from Cork, Donegal, Dublin, Galway and

the Aran Islands to the meeting.

More than 200 residents attended their last protest meeting in Glengarriff this summer.

Save Bantry Bay chairman Kieran O'Shea said they also had a "very encouraging response" from a leaflet drop to 7,000 residents on the Beara Peninsula and to 179 letters it sent to TDs, local councillors and senators.

The group's letter to TDs cited not only European legislation intended to protect wild salmon, but the loss of fishing grounds, increased pollution, the negative effect on the local shellfish industry on the six local salmon rivers, and on tourism.

Committee secretary Alex O'Donovan said BIM and the minister "appear to have forgotten" the Bantry Bay Charter, agreed by representatives of all stakeholders in the area which recognised "the valid opinions and perspectives of all the interests in the area" and which required "at least a broad-based consensus for any future developments".

The meeting, which is open to the public, will be held in the Maritime Hotel, Bantry at 7.30pm on Friday.

\* [www.savebantrybay.com](http://www.savebantrybay.com)

<http://www.irisht Examiner.com/ireland/fish-farmings-public-enemy-no-1-to-boost-bantry-campaign-214505.html>

Alexandra Morton, 20 November 2012

### The Fish Farm Fight

For two decades I have refrained from using the word "fight" to describe the efforts of my self and others to bring reason to the conflict between industrial salmon feedlots and the living coast of British Columbia.

Today, I have changed my mind. This is a fight - as in fighting for life.

Through the passage of time and Justice Cohen, we are all a lot better informed today than when this started in the waters of my home near Kingcome Inlet in 1988. I believe many, in government and in the industry, know what we are dealing with here, but no one is quite sure how to come clean.

I am racing an epidemic and government gave the viruses the head start. If anyone wants to say I am wrong I have this to say: **Prove it**. Step up now and lay your reputation on the line and tell us ISA virus is not in British Columbia. Many did this already under oath at Cohen.

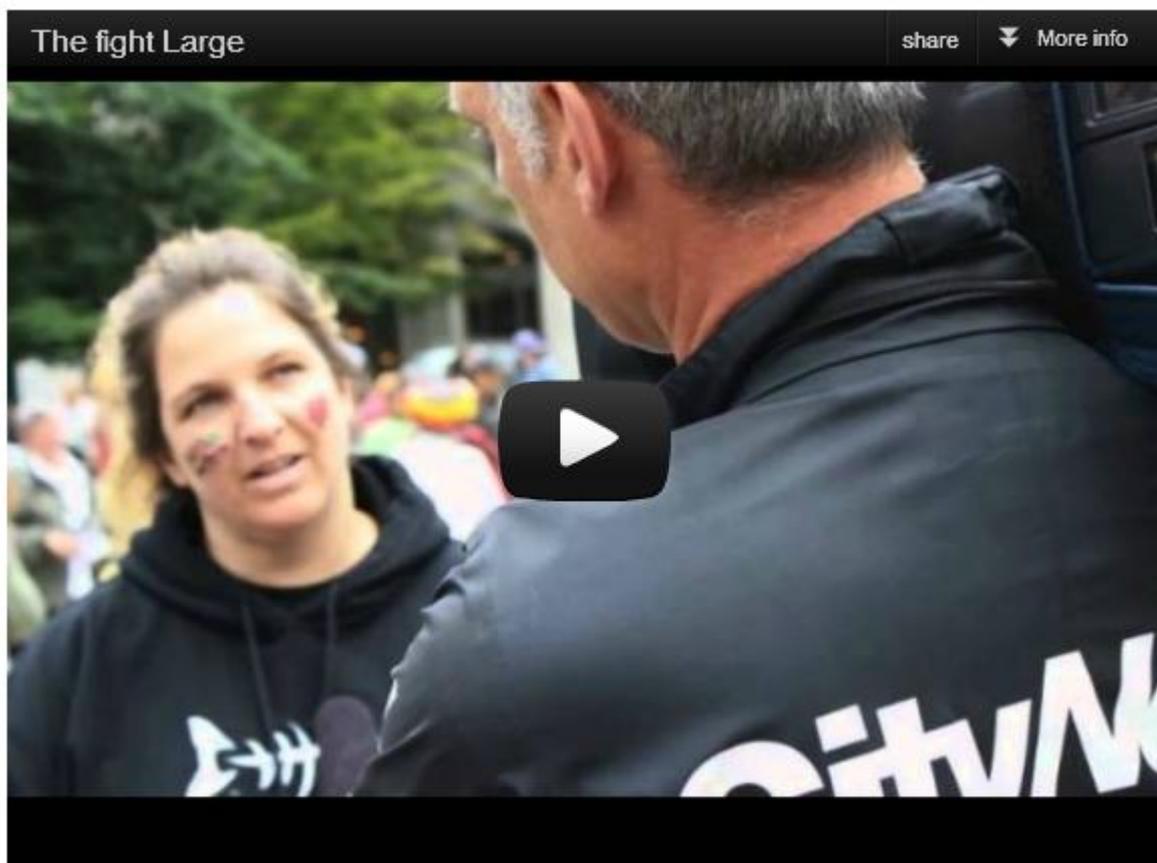
To the Minister of Fisheries, the Premier of BC and the CFIA I can only say you need to figure out an exit strategy. You are ignoring thousands of people. You can't hide this, it is too big. Influenza-type viruses in feedlots are dangerous.

To the rest of you, please view this presentation and consider helping us pay the costs associated with getting the message out. The BC salmon farmers have spent millions to combat our effort and they are still losing. Industrial salmon feedlots can never work in the ocean. They are a dirty, failing dinosaur of an industry that is taking the coastlines of Canada down with them.

This issue now spans the nation with both eastern and western Canada coming together to stand up to this industry.

Please consider supporting us before the ISA virus does what it has done in every other country that allowed Atlantic salmon farming... go viral.

[Watch this](#), turn up the volume, go to full screen and see the determination in these faces. Please consider pitching in, the wild salmon economy leaves no one behind.



[DONATE](#) by clicking on the first word in this sentence

[Sign this petition](#) to Premier Clark not to continue as the slumlord to the salmon feedlot industry. Over 12,000 have signed, we delivered to her door, but there has been no response. Please let your family members know about this opportunity to make a difference.

Join the Conversation at Salmon Are Sacred on FACEBOOK

[http://alexandramorton.typepad.com/alexandra\\_morton/2012/11/the-fish-farm-fight.html](http://alexandramorton.typepad.com/alexandra_morton/2012/11/the-fish-farm-fight.html)



Salmon processing plant in Chile. (Photo: Fundación Terram)

A difficult 2013 forecast for salmon firms



**CHILE**

**Tuesday, November 20, 2012, 03:40 (GMT + 9)**

While the salmon industry has recorded a significant increase in production, leaving behind the prolonged crisis caused by the infectious salmon anemia (ISA) virus, a scenario is envisioned that is not so encouraging due to the low prices expected for 2013.

The [Undersecretariat of Fisheries and Aquaculture](#) (Subpesca) projected that next year salmon price will still be low, Carolina Pizarro said in an article published in the newspaper *La Tercera*.

In this context, banks cautiously observe the "sensitive" situation of some salmon companies.

In fact, Superintendencia de Valores indicated the sector recorded losses of USD 70 million during the first six months of 2012.

For example, [Australis Seafoods SA](#) had a loss of USD 25 million in the first half of the year and [Invertec Pesquera Mar de Chiloé](#) (Invermar), USD 18 million.

Furthermore, banks have observed the fall that the Salmon Index registered at the Stock Exchange, which has accumulated a decline of 28.14 per cent so far this year.

A bank executive told *La Tercera* that "the bankruptcy scenario was not seen in 2012, therefore, it will no longer take place."

"The 2013 scenario will be difficult because bad prices and overproduction will continue, and it joins the depreciation that several companies have to perform as to redeem their loans," he added.

From the bank it has also been indicated that the most vulnerable companies are renegotiating their covenants, so that "there should be no financial strangulation and they will be transferred to 2013".

One of the companies experiencing a sensitive situation was [Cultivos Marinos Chiloé](#), but the issue was solved with the purchase Cermaq made.

Meanwhile, Invermar and [Trusal S.A.](#) are now in the same situation.

"Companies lack cash and neither the banks nor capital markets will be able to produce those resources, so the solution is the merger," the source added.

Meanwhile, Subpesca head, Pablo Galilea, ensured that while the industry's financial situation is not an element which the entity must deal with, "certainly, given the price level that exists today in the world market and the level of debt and the problems that the companies have had to face in order to have working capital, no doubt that companies must be very sensitive."

"We have an oversupply and for the market to be able to be regulated it will take at least one year. We have noted that the price situation will not improve in 2013, unfortunately," added the undersecretary.

The president of the [Association of Salmon Industry AG](#) (SalmonChile), Maria Eugenia Wagner, acknowledged that in recent times there were some mergers.

But she stated "the important thing is that there is a big market to sell salmon that will continue growing," so that "investing in the salmon business with medium-term outlook is good business."

#### **Related articles:**

- [Salmon firms' cash flow to remain under pressure in 2012](#)
- [Good prospects in salmon industry](#)

*By Analia Murias*  
[editorial@fis.com](mailto:editorial@fis.com)  
[www.fis.com](http://www.fis.com)

<http://www.fis.com/fis/worldnews/worldnews.asp?l=e&country=0&special=&monthyear=&day=&id=56960&ndb=1&df=0>

Campbell River Mirror, 20 November 2012

Marine Harvest continues wild salmon research

With B.C. aboriginal and environmental groups clambering for an end to salmon farming, one of the biggest players in the sector, Marine Harvest, is reminding the public that it has been quietly supporting wild salmon research for two years.

“In 2010, Marine Harvest, the Pacific Salmon Foundation and Fisheries and Oceans Canada partnered to begin research into wild salmon health and migratory patterns in the Discovery Islands area,” says Clare Backman, Director of Sustainable Programs at Marine Harvest Canada (MHC). “We look forward to expanding on our past support to do further research into the baseline health of wild salmon and the potential interactions with our salmon farms.”

Earlier this month the Cohen Commission of Inquiry concluded a three year probe into the decline of Fraser River sockeye and Justice Bruce Cohen presented 75 recommendations to the federal government. While global warming and fisheries management were highlighted in the report as the most serious concern to the future sustainability of the Fraser River sockeye, the recommendations also included a request for additional fish health data from government hatcheries and wild salmon migrating through the Discovery Islands area.

Commissioner Cohen said that wild sockeye could suffer “serious or irreversible harm” if exposed to disease and that the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) needed to recognize the possible risk of disease transfer between wild and farm fish.

He recommended that DFO undertake a decisive study of the risks to wild salmon from Discovery Islands fish farming operations.

Cohen’s recommendations “are all about protecting wild salmon which is central to the work that we do each day on our farms,” Backman says. “We’re confident that our farms are not a risk to wild salmon and we support more research to confirm that.”

However, the anti-fish farm lobby is in no mood to wait for research to be completed. It is demanding that the provincial government not renew leases for open-net salmon farms on the coast. Aboriginals and environmentalists demonstrated outside Premier Christy Clark’s constituency office in Point Grey last week and delivered a petition with more than 11,000 signatures opposing the renewal of salmon farm leases.

Molina Dawson of the Dzawada’enuxw First Nation from Kingcome Inlet says: “I know without a doubt that the cost to our wild salmon – and everything that relies on them – isn’t worth it. So, as long as the government and fish farm companies are actively endangering our fish they will not be getting any support from me.”

BC Salmon Farmers Association Executive Director Mary Ellen Walling says: “There is no evidence that salmon farms are harming wild salmon. Justice Cohen has asked for more research in one particular operating area and it’s a recommendation we’ve supported. Our farmers continue to operate in their responsible manner in the Discovery Islands, and around the coast. Our contribution to coastal and First Nations communities is important to all of our farm companies working along the B.C. coast. We plan to see that continue. As for the tenures, our farmers have been operating there for many years and these are not new applications.”

Walling also says the sector has about 14 protocol agreements with First Nations offering a “range of opportunities such as priority hiring, contract opportunities and revenue.”

A 2011 report for the Aboriginal Aquaculture Association showed that annual output of farmed salmon is about 77,000 tonnes of which 60,000 tonnes is produced in aboriginal territories under various agreements.

Agriculture Minister Norm Letnick says the province continues to review the Cohen report and will provide a detailed response in the future. Currently, there are 27 aquaculture tenures in the Discovery Islands.

Of those, seven are under review for tenure replacement and are operating under month-to-month tenancy agreements.

- [Wild salmon tested for disease](#)
- [Marine Harvest salmon receives industry certification](#)
- [Marine Harvest happy with land-based facility results](#)
- [Salmon farmers confident Cohen will not link wild fish decline to farmed fish](#)
- [Industry association puts aquaculture research database online](#)
- [Salmon farmers confident of their product](#)

<http://www.campbellrivermirror.com/news/180236701.html>

GAAIA, 20 November 2012

## Marine Harmfest's Bad Case of Chemical Use

Don Staniford

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24 videos ▾



Watch online via: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EUycUhM\\_1ig&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EUycUhM_1ig&feature=youtu.be)

Marine Harvest is experiencing problems all around the world with infectious diseases in particular.

Read about their financial losses due to Amoebic Gill Disease and sea lice:

<http://donstaniford.typepad.com/my-blog/2012/10/marine-harvests-missing-millions-q3-s-drop-86.html>

Read more about Marine Harvest Scotland's use of toxic chemicals:

<http://gaaia.org/scotlands-secrets>

Read more about Marine Harvest Scotland's problems with gill diseases:

<http://donstaniford.typepad.com/files/disease-dossier-scotland-nov-2012.pdf>

Read more about Marine Harvest's problems in British Columbia via:

<http://donstaniford.typepad.com/my-blog/2012/06/dear-marine-harvest.html>

Watch a video "Dear Marine Harvest" online via: <http://www.callingfromthecoast.com/video-test-page/the-latest-film-dear-marine-harvest/>

Watch more via: “[Marine Harvest’s Slaughter of Seals in Loch Alsh, Scotland](#)” (GAAIA, 18 November)

Green Around the Gills, 19 November 2012

Fit for the Queen - Loch Duart’s Chlamydia-Contaminated Salmon?

A [warning letter](#) from the Association for the Preservation of the Eastern Shore in Nova Scotia will be delivered later today (19 November) to Loch Duart’s office in Lochmaddy. GAAIA has also [written](#) to Her Majesty the Queen (who served [Loch Duart](#) farmed salmon at her Diamond Jubilee in June) asking her to screen her farmed salmon for [Chlamydia](#) and other infectious diseases which were [reported](#) this year in Loch Duart's "sustainable" farmed salmon.

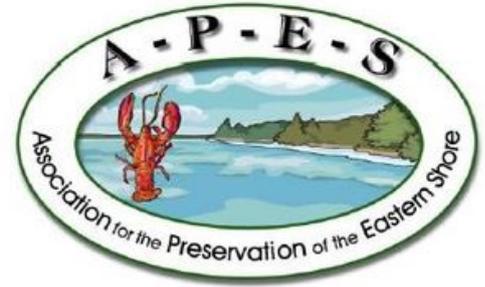


Read a press release - "Fit for the Queen & Residents of Nova Scotia - Loch Duart's Chlamydia-Contaminated Salmon?" - [online here](#)

“I am writing to you from New Scotland, Nova Scotia, where Loch Duart is seeking to have licences on our Eastern Shore to install three eighteen hectare open pen salmon feedlots,” wrote Marike Findlay, President of the [Association for the Preservation of the Eastern Shore \(APES\)](#). “We, the citizens of Nova Scotia, beseech you, the citizens of Scotland, to prevail upon your government not to allow Loch Duart to come to Nova Scotia to contaminate our waters. Pollution that severely damages our wild catch fisheries, our tourism industries, and our wild and pristine environment, is not the kind of diplomacy that needs to exist between the New and Old Scotlands.”

November 16, 2012

## AN OPEN LETTER TO SCOTLAND



Dear Scottish citizens,

I am writing you from New Scotland – Nova Scotia, where Loch Duart is seeking to have licenses granted on our Eastern Shore to install three eighteen hectare open pen salmon feedlots. Since, we, the citizens along the Eastern Shore have learned of this Scottish company's intentions to contaminate our bays and harbours in a manner similar if not worse to what it is doing in your country we have written thousands of letters to our federal and provincial governments asking them not to grant these permits.

We have formed the Association for the Preservation of the Eastern Shore to inform our citizens of the national and international science that shows how deleterious these farms are to the benthic environment and to wild catch fishery.

The letter concludes:

We, in Nova Scotia, are aware that one reason why Nick Joy wants to come to our waters could be that Scotland has restricted the areas where fish farming can take place in order to protect its own waters and also because many of the waters that house such feedlots in Scotland are now too contaminated to carry on. We know Loch Duart's Scottish record for escapes and the administration of chemicals is very bad indeed.

We, the citizens of Nova Scotia, beseech you, the citizens of Scotland, to prevail upon your government not to allow Loch Duart to come to Nova Scotia to contaminate our waters. Pollution that severely damages our wild catch fisheries, our tourism industries, and our wild and pristine environment, is not the kind of diplomacy that needs to exist between the New and Old Scotlands.

Yours Truly,

Marike Finlay – de Monchy

President, Association for the Preservation of the Eastern Shore

Read the letter in full [online here](#)

Watch video reports online via:

[“Loch Duart – The Toxic Salmon Company”](#) (GAAIA, 18 November)

[“Loch Duart Not Welcome in New Scotland \(Nova Scotia\)”](#) (GAAIA, 19 November)

Article in full online here: <http://donstaniford.typepad.com/my-blog/2012/11/fit-for-the-queen-loch-duarts-chlamydia-contaminated-salmon.html>

Read more via:

[“Slash & Burn Salmon Farming in Scotland”](#) (Green Around the Gills, 18 November)

[“The Camera Never Lies \(Unlike Salmon Farmers!\)”](#) (Green Around the Gills, 16 November)

[“Hebrides Against Salmon Farms Launched in Scotland”](#) (Green Around the Gills, 13 November)

The Times Colonist, 18 November 2012

B.C. urged not to renew leases for salmon farms

Judith Lavoie

First Nations and environmental groups are ramping up pressure on the provincial government to reject renewal applications for salmon farm tenures.

An 11,000-signature petition was delivered last week to Premier Christy Clark's constituency office during a demonstration led by members of Kingcome Inlet's Musgamagw Dzawada'enuxw First Nation, who live on the mainland, east of Port Hardy.

Molina Dawson, 16, who represented Kingcome Village families at the rally, said she believes government and fish farming industries are endangering wild fish.

"I know, without a doubt, that the cost to our wild salmon and everything that relies on them isn't worth it," she said.

Salmon farmers say the farms pose no risks to wild salmon.

But groups such as the Wilderness Committee are asking the province to limit salmon farming.

"The proponents of this industry and, unfortunately, decision-makers at the federal level seem perfectly comfortable jeopardizing B.C.'s wild salmon," said Torrance Coste, Wilderness Committee Vancouver Island campaigner. "This is a chance for our provincial government to do the right thing for this coast, to step up for B.C.'s most important wild species."

Although salmon farms are managed by the federal government, the provincial government is responsible for renewing licences for sea-floor tenures.

The Cohen Commission into the decline of Fraser River sockeye concluded that many factors are responsible for shrinking sockeye runs. However, commissioner Bruce Cohen said salmon farm development in the Discovery Islands should be frozen and existing farms should be shut down if they pose any risk to wild stocks.

Dave Crebo, Agriculture Ministry spokesman, said in an email that of 27 aquaculture tenures in the Discovery Islands, seven are currently under adjudication for tenure replacement. One amendment is under review.

"These seven sites are currently under a month-to-month tenancy," he said.

In the Broughton Archipelago, another sensitive area, the ministry is working on 20 replacement tenure applications. Until decision are made, those farms will be under month-to-month tenancy arrangements, Crebo said.

"There are no new applications in the Broughton area."

[jlavoie@timescolonist.com](mailto:jlavoie@timescolonist.com)

<http://www.timescolonist.com/news/urged+renew+leases+salmon+farms/7566383/story.html>

The Chronicle Herald, 17 November 2012

### **Missed a few facts**

A number of Pamela Parker's "facts" about open net-pen salmon farms (Nov. 10 letter) warrant some clarification. She has also missed a few other important facts.

Fact: While wild salmon populations may "fluctuate" due to a number of factors, scientific studies have shown significant declines in wild salmon populations in areas where salmon farms are located. (The recent withdrawal of a "farm" application on the Eastern Shore was based on concerns by the industry itself for possible impacts on wild salmon.)

Fact: Open net-pen salmon farms disperse tonnes of feces, and other pollutants, directly into the ocean ecosystem during each production cycle. (Any other industry would face heavy fines for such a practice.)

Fact: The "strict regulations regarding waste management" have allowed "dead zones" to develop below some salmon farms, as well as significant pollution levels far beyond the pens themselves. (See above.)

Fact: High concentrations of stressed fish in open net-pens provide ideal breeding grounds for diseases such as ISA. (Yet taxpayers are expected to compensate the industry for its losses.)

Fact: Open net-pen salmon farms are being forced on coastal communities that have made it very clear to government and the industry that they do not want them.

The fact that government and industry choose to deny or ignore these facts is a "disservice" to the people of Nova Scotia.

Dave Maynard, Spry Bay

### **Base decisions on science**

If the fisheries and aquaculture minister meant his recent statements about “making the right decisions based on good science,” the proposal for two 100-acre fish farms for Jordan Bay will be rejected.

Fact: DFO has warned that because Jordan Bay is too shallow and the currents are too weak, it is an inappropriate area for industrial fish farming.

Fact: Copper (in salmon feed and in net anti-foulants) kills lobster larvae. So do aquaculture pesticides used to control sea lice.

Fact: Sea lice are not exclusive to the New Brunswick side of the Bay of Fundy.

Fact: Jordan Bay is a known lobster nursery and lucrative lobster fishing area.

Nearby sites in Shelburne Harbour, with similar conditions of poor currents and shallow depths, have a history of disease and pollution.

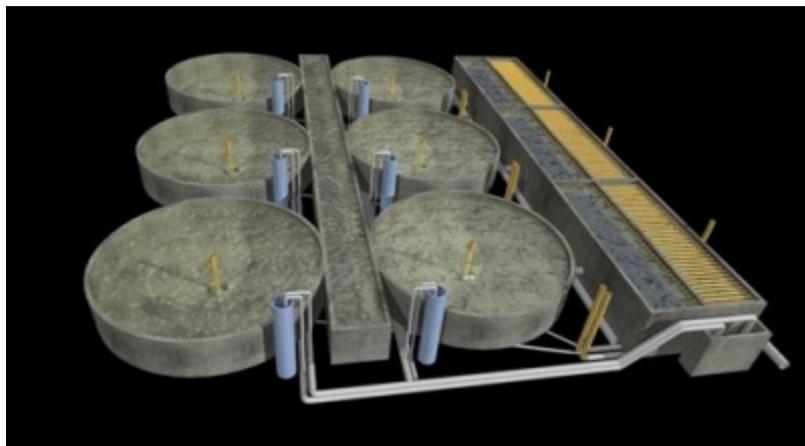
Perhaps the upcoming Marine Trade Show in Shelburne will shed some light on why the government is setting itself up for another failure, as well as putting a lobster fishery at risk. Why would the minister consider only one option for economic development — another mega-project with exaggerated job “promises”?

Sindy Horncastle, Jordan Bay

<http://thechronicleherald.ca/letters/178065-voice-of-the-people-november-17-2012>

The Common Sense Canadian, 17 November 2012

One step forward with fish farms



Schematic drawing for closed-containment fish farm - from DFO's feasibility study on the subject

Rafe Mair

A promising [article on fish farms](#) appears in today's *Vancouver Sun*. At face value it looks like great news - the story of fish farming on land with no contact with the ocean.

As I say, it looks great but I want to hear what Alexandra Morton has to say.

The objection industry has always made is that it's too expensive for them to compete that way. The answer to that, according to the *Sun* article, is that excrement can be recycled for profit and that expenses such as fish lost to predators, or to kill sea lice are avoided.

There is only one fair way to compare the two approaches: charge fish farms an appropriate rent for their leases to include ALL the environmental losses. This levels the playing field and is only fair.

The market for farmed fish is there as we deplete wild stocks around the world. The trouble is that our wild stocks are not depleted by over-fishing anymore but by allowing poisoned farmed fish to mingle with the wild.

Bringing the farms on land will only happen if ocean farms are taxed their appropriate due.

<http://thecanadian.org/item/1811-one-step-forward-with-fish-farms-two-steps-back-with-proposed-fossil-fuel-exports>

The Vancouver Sun, 17 November 2012

Salmon farming comes ashore

Fish grown in closed containment systems offer big environmental advantages, proponents say

By Randy Shore

Twenty-three thousand Atlantic salmon smolts will arrive at the 'Namgis First Nation's salmon farm in January, just a fraction of the millions of similar fish that grow to maturity each year in B.C.

What's different about these fish is that they will never swim in the ocean, never come in contact with wild salmon and never be treated for sea lice.

'Namgis Closed Containment Salmon Farm is the first commercial-scale, land-based fish farm for Atlantic salmon in North America. It's part of a global trend of large closed-containment farms also being pursued in Denmark and in Chile.

The 'Namgis smolts will grow to maturity in just 12 to 15 months in a facility nearing completion not far from Port McNeill on Vancouver Island. The 'Namgis farm uses five 500-cubic-metre tanks capable of producing a total 500 tonnes of fish each year.

The system is the first of five identical modules to be built on the site, when the designs and systems are proven, for total capacity of 2,500 tonnes a year, about the same as a net-pen salmon farm.

Despite the extra costs associated with land-based salmon farming, the product needn't cost much more than net-pen Atlantic salmon. The carefully controlled environment in an advanced closed-containment system allows the fish grow to maturity twice as fast, in a smaller space with less feed than net-pen salmon.

Concerns about the spread of disease and sea lice between wild and farmed salmon make a commercially viable land-based Atlantic salmon farm something of an environmental Holy Grail.

And that search has intensified since the report of the Cohen Commission found that net-pen salmon farms can and do hurt the health of B.C.'s wild sockeye salmon stocks. The report urges an immediate freeze on new net-pen farms along sockeye migration routes.

The 'Namgis project is intended to be a hothouse for innovation with the goal of advancing closed-containment technology for Atlantic salmon to commercial viability as quickly as possible. For that purpose, 'Namgis has attracted \$8.5 million from philanthropic, conservation and government sources, coordinated by the conservation foundation Tides Canada.

"We put together this innovation fund to explore land-based aquaculture as an alternative to open net aquaculture, primarily as a way to better protect the marine environment and wild salmon," said Catherine Emrick, who co-ordinates the fund at Tides Canada.

The 'Namgis First Nation spent years challenging the provincial and federal government in court over the "mismanagement" of the net-pen salmon industry near their traditional territories, according to Chief Bill Cranmer.

"We had seen the effects on our sockeye salmon returns on the Nimpkish River and the effect of the sea lice on the chum," said Cranmer. "Eric Hobson at Save Our Salmon told us we could use litigation, but we should also provide an alternative."

From that seed planted six years ago, a partnership has grown including Tides Canada Salmon Aquaculture Innovation Fund (\$3.7 million), Sustainable Development and Technology Canada (\$2.65 million), Aquaculture Innovation and Market Access Program, (\$800,000), Aboriginal Affairs Canada (\$257,000), Coast Sustainability Trust (\$113,000) and the 'Namgis First Nation (\$1 million.)

To survive and thrive, land-based systems have to compete on both price and quality with net-pen Atlantic salmon, while using an infrastructure that requires significantly more money to build and to run.

Closed-containment systems are already used in B.C. to grow Atlantic salmon to 100-gram one-year-old smolts, which are then transferred to mature in ocean-based net pens.

But using land-based systems that grow salmon to maturity have a number of advantages over net-pen farming, according to aquaculture systems researcher Steve Summerfelt of the Freshwater Institute in West Virginia.

The advantages can be summed up in a single word: Control.

- . Control of light and temperature allows growth rates that are double those of ocean-raised Atlantic salmon.

- . Control of effluent and solid waste protects B.C.'s marine environment and the nutrients recovered can be sold as fertilizer.

- . Control of the growing environment protects farmed fish from predation, bad weather and disease, eliminating the need for pesticides and antibiotics.

Along with additional control, land-based systems come with additional costs. 'Namgis will cost nearly \$30 million when it is completed, compared with a Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) estimate of \$5 million to install and stock a net-pen operation.

Pumping, heating, cooling and lighting all require energy, which adds about 30 per cent to the costs of running land-based systems over ocean-based farms.

The project will marry an array of technologies, such as variable speed pumps, high-density rearing environments and biofilters, and employ creative new uses for proven systems such as geothermal heating and cooling and heat exchangers that draw energy from groundwater to maintain optimal temperatures in the tanks, according to operations manager Cathal Dinneen.

The 'Namgis were a natural partner for the project because they are the B.C. First Nation most affected by the collapse of wild salmon stocks, said Hobson, also a board member of the K'udas Partnership, the company formed to build and operate the project with the 'Namgis.

"The 'Namgis have occupied the land at the mouth of the Nimpkish River and the Broughton Archipelago for 5,000 years and it's only in the last 20 that the salmon have been wiped out," said Hobson. "There are 27 net-cage farm sites in the Broughton Archipelago, so they are very eager to prove that you can grow salmon on land."

A 2010 DFO analysis of land-based and in-ocean closed containment systems found land-based aquaculture has potential to be profitable with available technology, even without charging a premium price in the market for a sustainable product.

"Even 3½ years ago we didn't know if this would work," said Hobson. "(Save Our Salmon) wanted to mitigate the impacts of net-pen farming and come up with a vision for the long term."

Recent studies have found that more than three quarters of the world's wild fish stocks are being fished to capacity or headed to extinction, while global demand for seafood is rising steadily, according to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization.

"We knew we needed to move these fish onto land and we needed to be able to clean the water, so we didn't create another environmental problem on land," Hobson said. "What we found out was that not only was the technology already there, but it was off the shelf."

Cost projections based on the enhanced technology being used at 'Namgis and the results of growth trials convinced SOS and Tides Canada that a true closed-containment system could finally produce a superior product at a price that is competitive with net-pen operations.

Recirculating aquaculture systems - land-based farming systems that the industry calls RAS - are being used to raise trout, catfish, yellow perch, Arctic char, eels and tilapia in North America, Chile and Europe. Sturgeon and coho are being raised in RAS systems in B.C.

But while Atlantic salmon have been grown to maturity in research facilities and boutique-sized projects, they have never been grown to harvest size in a commercial-sized RAS system.

Without the help of angel investors - governments and philanthropists - it might have been many years before anyone was willing to invest private funds in land-based Atlantic salmon farms.

"It has to be this way," said Hobson. "It has never been tried before so there was little chance of attracting traditional investors."

Tides Canada recruited expertise for the project from cutting edge researchers such as Freshwater's Summerfelt to advise the K'udas project. Systems for water recirculation and waste capture developed by the Freshwater Institute are being employed in commercial RAS systems all over North America and will be incorporated into the 'Namgis project.

The 'Namgis project has also sought out the most experienced growers in the industry for guidance to complete the first of five production modules this winter.

K'udas board member Per Heggelund operates a RAS-based farm capable of annual production of 180 tonnes of coho, which he sells in Over-waitea stores under the SweetSpring brand. SweetSpring coho is regarded as the most sustainable farmed salmon on the market by Greenpeace.

"'Namgis has learned a few things from us on the design side and about some of the pitfalls from our mistakes," said Heggelund. "(SweetSpring) is operating the fifth generation of RAS technology and we are proving that out, growing fish to three kilos in 12 months."

## WASTE POTENTIAL

The path from environmental hazard to revenue stream

. Bell Aquaculture uses leftovers from processing - heads, tails, guts and gills - from its yellow perch farm in Indiana to make Fish Rich 2-2-2 Organic Fertilizer, a significant additional revenue stream.

. Waste water from recirculating aquaculture systems is naturally rich in nitrogen and is used to grow aquaponic greenhouse vegetables, algae and even brine shrimp suitable for use as fish feed.

. Solid waste from aquaculture tanks is used to create nutrient-rich compost for farmers and gardeners.

[rshore@vancouver.sun.com](mailto:rshore@vancouver.sun.com)

<http://www.vancouver.sun.com/life/Salmon+farming+comes+ashore/7564642/story.html>

The Vancouver Sun, 17 November 2012

Environmental pressure creates demand for sustainable fish

Randy Shore

Atlantic salmon are prized as a farm fish by growers - because they grow to harvest size quickly - and by cooks and chefs for their firm flesh and mild flavour.

Vancouver-based Albion Fisheries is developing a local market for closed containment Atlantic salmon, putting samples grown in research facilities in West Virginia into the hands of chefs.

"The closed containment product has a milder flavour than ocean-raised salmon which really suits the North American palate," said Albion vice-president Guy Dean. "Some of the chefs really liked the higher fat content and thought it tasted more buttery."

"In consumer taste tests, 80 per cent chose the closed containment product over the net-pen product," he said.

Market research also shows some people won't buy farmed fish because of the problems with net-pen farms, said Eric Hobson, a board member of the 'Namgis closed containment salmon farm.

A farmed fish that ticks all the boxes for sustainability could well find a market among environmentally conscious shoppers, said Mike McDermid, a manager at Vancouver Aquarium's Ocean Wise conservation program.

"Land-based aquaculture mitigates escapes, controls effluents and solid waste and you don't have any disease getting out into the wild, if it's a true recirculating system," he said. "The elephant in the room is still feed. You don't want to damage wild fisheries in order to feed so-called sustainable aquaculture."

Living Ocean Society is working with feed suppliers as part of the 'Namgis project to ensure the farmed fish will be fed a sustainable diet.

Conservation groups and eco-certification programs are putting pressure on consumers and retailers to make sustainable seafood choices.

Nearly all of North America's major grocery store chains, from B.C.-based Overwaitea to multinational retailer Walmart, have committed to a timetable for eliminating unsustainable seafoods from their shelves, many over the next three or four years.

"Retailers are clamouring for sustainable product, because they've made these commitments and there are very limited quantities available on the market," said Garry Ullstrom, senior financial officer of the 'Namgis partnership that is building a closed containment Atlantic salmon farm on Vancouver Island.

Canada's SeaChoice sustainable seafood program is working with Overwaitea/Save-on, Safeway and Whole Foods to introduce sustainable seafood buying policies.

In June, Overwaitea Food Group dropped net-pen farmed salmon from its stores, replacing it with coho raised in closed containment by Sweet-Spring Salmon in Washington State. SweetSpring is rated "super-green" by Seafood Watch and a Best Choice by SeaChoice.

A handful of coho and sockeye products raised in land-based closed containment farms have already received Vancouver Aquarium Ocean Wise certification. Atlantic salmon grown in net-pens - the entire commercial supply - is on the "not recommended" list.

[rshore@vancouver.sun.com](mailto:rshore@vancouver.sun.com)

<http://www.vancouver.sun.com/travel/Environmental+pressure+creates+demand+sustainable+fish/7564641/story.html>

GAAIA, 17 November 2012

Future of Fishing Compromised by Fish Farms



Watch via “[Future of Fishing Compromised by Fish Farms](#)”

Watch more via: “[Salmon Farms Displace Fishermen in Scotland](#)” (GAAIA, 17 November)

The Irish Independent, 16 November 2012

Wild salmon stocks 'wiped out' by sea lice

By Treacy Hogan Environment Correspondent

HUGE stocks of the iconic wild Atlantic salmon are being wiped out by sea lice from fish farms around the coast.

The wild salmon returning to Irish rivers to spawn are being infested with sea lice, an official report has found.

Some of the fish farms may have to close due to the high mortality rate, according to the international two-year investigation involving the State's Inland Fisheries Ireland authority and top scientists from Ireland and abroad.

On average, 39pc of deaths among wild salmon are attributable to sea lice in areas with salmon farming, the report concludes.

The mortality results may cause the closure of some fisheries when wild salmon numbers are below conservation levels, the report warns.

And there could be serious implications for small populations of wild salmon in small rivers, it adds.

The salmon aquaculture industry is obliged to keep sea lice levels below that needed to protect wild salmon from being infested and dying.

<http://www.independent.ie/national-news/wild-salmon-stocks-wiped-out-by-sea-lice-3295392.html>

West Highland Free Press, 16 November 2012



FAMILIAR SIGHT: Salmon farming has had a presence on the west coast for around three decades

# Lobby puts fish farming in the spotlight

KEITH MACKENZIE  
focus



Keith Mackenzie - wilton.co.uk

**IT MIGHT SEEM** bizarre, but two sides of the same debate were being played out in Tokyo and Tarskavaig this week.

In the Japanese capital Scottish Food and Drink secretary Richard Lockhead was in the swanky Nohu restaurant, extolling the virtues of Scottish farmed salmon as a replacement for tuna in sushi — a trend which he believes, if exports rise by just one per cent, will be worth an extra £2.4 million a year to the Scottish economy. The Japanese import over 85,000 tonnes of salmon each year, but Scotland currently accounts for just 900 tonnes of that — hence the reason for the wide margins in the land of the rising sun as part of the Government's wider target to double Scotland's farmed fish production by 2020.

Back on these shores, however, it has become more strident than sushi as fish farming — an industry with a strong presence on the west coast — has

of diseases such as Infectious Salmon Anaemia, in sea lice and in a net loss of marine resources — particularly in wild salmon stocks.

"It's not xenophobic — Norway has traditionally been a green, clean country, but the message to these multinationals is go, and take the disease-ridden salmon with them," he said.

Accompanying Skotland on his tour, and also addressing last week's meeting, was Ellen Edwards, who took up the campaign against fish farming due to its expansion in her native British Columbia. She had with her a huge Norwegian flag, signed by those supporting her cause — which is targeted specifically at protecting wild salmon stocks.

Wild salmon

INDUSTRY BOBBES, however, continue to refute many of the claims put forward by those opposing fish farming on environmental grounds.

Only this week the representative body for the salmon farming industry wrote to the University of St Andrews demanding an independent inquiry into the promotion of a scientific paper which looked at the impact of sea lice on wild salmon stocks.

A press release circulated in connection with the study suggested sea lice had been responsible for 29 per cent of ocean mortalities of wild salmon in the Northeast Atlantic. But Professor Phil Thomas, chairman of the Scottish Salmon Producers' Organisation, described the release as "a major blunder", believing the findings remain consistent with the one to two per cent impact of sea lice on mortality already reported in earlier scientific studies.

Also supporting Mr MacArthur's viewpoint at last week's meeting was local man Anton Ristic. "I passionately wish to see the economy of the Highlands and Islands flourish," he told the *Free Press*, adding that he thought fish farming was deserving of support, primarily on the grounds it supported valuable jobs, both directly and indirectly.

“Aquaculture is a well-managed, safe and

# Lobby puts fish farming in the spotlight

**KEITH MACKENZIE**  
focus



keith.mackenzie@whfp.co.uk

**KEITH MACKENZIE**  
looks at the ongoing  
debate over the  
merits of Scotland's  
salmon farming  
industry...

**T**HAT NIGHT SEEM BLAZED, but two sides of the same debate were being played out in Tokyo and Tarskavaig this week.

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Back on these shores, however, it has become more stochastic than sushi as fish farming — an industry with a strong presence on the west coast for some three decades — again finds itself at the centre of a dispute between environmental and economic interests.

The spotlight in south Skye has fallen on an application from salmon farming giant Marine Harvest to site 12 pens in Loch Slapin. In response some residents in nearby Slait voiced their opposition — largely on the scenic impact of the cages and the noise of associated sea traffic — but this individual planning case has since sparked a wider debate on the merits of the industry as a whole.

And last week global activists against fish farming addressed a meeting in Slait to call for a halt to further expansion of the aquaculture industry — a message they are delivering with some zeal on a tour throughout the west coast.

In conversation with the *Free Press* prior to that meeting Don Staniford, the committed, if controversial, campaigner who is frontman for the Global Alliance Against Industrial Aquaculture, said he believed humans "had now lost the right" to eat farmed salmon.

The salmon farming industry, suggests Staniford, did not serve the Scottish economy in the way claimed by the delegation in Japan this week. Instead, he said the main beneficiaries were now shareholders of the Norwegian multinational companies which control over 90 per cent of the industry in Scotland, and as a result local communities were now "paying the price".

That price, he argued, came in the spread

of diseases such as Infectious Salmon Anaemia, in sea lice and in a net loss of marine resources — particularly in wild salmon stocks.

"It's not xenophobic — Norway has traditionally been a green, clean country, but the message to these multinationals is go, and take the disease-ridden salmon with them," he said.

Accompanying Staniford on his tour, and also addressing last week's meeting, was Elena Edwards, who took up the campaign against fish farming due to its expansion in her native British Columbia. She had with her a huge Norwegian flag, signed by those supporting her cause — which is targeted specifically at protecting wild salmon stocks.

“Wild salmon know no borders, but neither does the salmon farming industry”

"Wild salmon know no borders, but neither does the salmon farming industry and the diseases that come with it," she added.

A third member of their delegation, who helped organise last week's meeting, is the Dutch Slait-based biologist Art Sevestre, who has set up the campaign group "Skye Waters Against Fish Farming". Mr Sevestre said he was preparing to fight a raft of site applications in Skye and beyond.

"There are over a dozen applications for new farms in the waters around Skye," he said. "Connecting with other groups means that we can work in a united and organised way on the issue nationally and even globally rather than allowing the mighty corporations to pitch battles with small communities with very limited resources."

**I**NDUSTRY BODIES, however, continue to refute many of the claims put forward by those opposing fish farming on environmental grounds.

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At last week's meeting, meanwhile, Ewan MacArthur, a farm manager with Marine Harvest Scotland who stressed he attended in a personal capacity, read out the following statement: "Don Staniford is the leading activist behind the organisation Global Alliance Against Industrial Aquaculture. He has campaigned against fish farming in the UK and abroad and holds very extreme views on the matter. Marine Harvest and our colleagues in the industry have responded to the issues he and his organisation have raised on many occasions over the years. We have cited authoritative research that contradicts the opinions he holds and have attempted to answer all of the concerns he has raised.

"Mr Staniford remains implacably opposed to fish farming. We believe he is wrong and that aquaculture is a well-managed, safe and environmentally sustainable activity. We are an open industry and proud to farm Scottish salmon.

He continued: "We do not believe there is any merit in continuing a dialogue with Mr Staniford. The statutory authorities who regulate our industry, the recognised scientific experts in the field and our democratically-elected government all support the industry and highlight its positive benefits in relation to exports, employment and food supply. While we respect Mr Staniford's right to campaign on the issue and for him to look for changes to regulation and legislation we believe he is wrong. We simply ask that he respects we have a perfect right to carry out our legitimate business."

Also supporting Mr MacArthur's viewpoint at last week's meeting was local man Angus Rossie. "I passionately wish to see the recovery of the Highlands and Islands fisheries," he told the *Free Press*, adding that he thought fish farming was deserving of support, primarily on the grounds it supported valuable jobs, both directly and indirectly.

“Aquaculture is a well-managed, safe and environmentally sustainable activity”

"I would agree that fish farms should not be sited in prime fishing grounds, but I don't think they affect tourism at all, and they aren't usually obtrusive on the landscape," he added.

**T**HE ECONOMIC FIGURES, as produced by the industry, seem to lend weight to Mr Rossie's claim.

The last industry research report into Scottish Salmon Farming, published in April this year, said direct employment through salmon production accounted for 680 jobs in the Highlands and 264 in the Western Isles.

In the two areas these jobs, over the last five years, have accounted for over £90 million in local wage payments, and in turn an estimated £400 million has been ploughed into the local economy as a result.

And as long as such figures can be produced in an area where directly-paid jobs are scarce even in periods of relative plenty, it seems likely it's the economic arguments which will continue to win out over the environmental lobby.

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

West Highland Free Press, 16 November 2012

## Growth of fish farming around Skye “should be vehemently opposed”

IT IS UNDERSTANDABLE that people employed in the fish farm industry believe that there is “no harm from fish farms” as maintained by your correspondents in last week’s issue (WHFP 9/11/12). This is a mistaken view, as there have been many peer-reviewed scientific studies, as opposed to “pseudo-scientific claptrap” that have shown that fish farming does indeed do harm.

Your correspondents have misinterpreted the purpose and content of the presentations by Don Staniford and Kurt Oddekalv at last week’s meeting. They were not an attack on the way fish farm workers do their jobs here in Skye but highlighted the effects of fish farming in general on both people and the environment. The fact that the environmental effects were

presentation were to official documents.

If it is the case that current fish farming on Skye co-exists happily with other people making their living from the sea then we should be glad of their current good management practices, but for how long can they maintain these practices as the incidence of fish diseases continues to rise? The scientific literature is full of information on the damage done to the marine environment by some of the chemicals used to treat fish. Hydrogen peroxide may not damage crustaceans but both Deltametrin and Emamectin Benzoate (listed in the Marine Harvest Loch Slapin planning application) are scientifically proven to be toxic for shellfish.

There are also problems created by the pollution of the marine

Slapin is equivalent to three times that produced by the inhabitants of Skye; that is not “scaremongering” or “just plain silly”, it is a scientific fact.

Skye may currently have a reputation for high-quality farmed salmon but it also has a reputation for high-quality shellfish and as a clean, wild place — a haven for walkers, kayakers, photographers, artists and environmentalists. An increase in fish farming would most likely damage Skye’s marketing image and result in a net loss in employment — from those small businesses engaged in small-scale fisheries and tourism to a large multi-national. The increase in fish farms may even threaten the ability of current fish farms to maintain their high standards and minimal environmental impact.

Looking further afield it, is in the interests of the world in general that we do not see an expansion of fish

farming would most likely damage Skye's marketing image and result in a net loss in employment — from those small businesses engaged in small-scale fisheries and tourism to a large multi-national. The increase in fish farms may even threaten the ability of current fish farms to maintain their high standards and minimal environmental impact.

Looking further afield it, is in the interests of the world in general that we do not see an expansion of fish farming. It takes 3.5kg of wild fish, taken from many parts of the world, to produce just 1kg of salmon so local fishermen lose both their livelihood and their communities' food supplies.

It is in our current economic self-interest to promote and improve Skye's glorious environment and rich biodiversity. It is a proven scientific fact that large-scale fish farming degrades the environment and impoverishes its biodiversity. It is also for the sake of ensuring that the communities of the future inherit a viable environment that the expansion of fish farming around Skye should be vehemently opposed.

**MARGARET CORMACK**  
**3 KILMORE**  
**TEANGUE**  
**ISLE OF SKYE IV44 8RG**

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

GAAIA, 15 November 2012

## Kurt Oddekalv on Salmon Farms in Scotland

Don Staniford

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Kurt Oddekalv, leader of the Green Warriors of Norway, reports from the windswept Outer Hebrides in Scotland on the environmental problems of salmon farms.

Watch via <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y4OIWuO0ebk>

4NI, 15 November 2012

### Glenarm Salmon Seals China Deal

Glenarm Organic Salmon is to supply top hotels in Hong Kong.

The news has been announced by Peter Robinson and Martin McGuinness, who are currently on a trade mission in China to promote Northern Ireland industry.

The Ministers made the announcement during a visit to the Food Hotel China exhibition in Shanghai with a group of Northern Ireland companies. The event was backed by Enterprise Minister Arlene Foster and Invest NI and attended by Agricultural Minister Michelle O'Neill.

First Minister Peter Robinson said: "Establishing a presence in Hong Kong for fresh salmon is a tremendous boost for this export-focused business. In a marketplace that remains among the world's most dynamic places to do business, this will provide a great opportunity to develop future sales."

Deputy First Minister Martin McGuinness added: "Today's announcement is testament to

the company's resilience, after the difficult circumstances Glenarm Organic Salmon experienced in 2007. It highlights how small local business can go from strength to strength in competitive environments, by focusing on developing niche markets and by attracting high profile customers."

Arlene Foster said: "Glenarm Organic Salmon has made excellent use of Invest Northern Ireland export schemes including a recent mission to Hong Kong for the seafood sector. By participating in discussions with potential buyers and following up expressions of interest quickly and successfully Glenarm has been able to secure this contract."

Michelle O'Neill welcomed the announcement: "Developing such export markets is important in sustaining employment for our rural communities and I congratulate Glenarm Organic Salmon on this exciting new development," she said.

John Russell, Glenarm Organic Salmon Managing Director, said: "The business that we are developing in Hong Kong will give us an important foothold for growth in China, an increasingly affluent market with a rapidly growing middle class with an interest in quality food from European suppliers. It's a market that we've targeted for fast growth during 2013.

"The interest that we are now attracting from high-end hotels in China carries forward our existing business in other parts of Asia such as Singapore and Thailand, markets which we have been shipping fresh salmon to since 2008."

[http://www.4ni.co.uk/northern\\_ireland\\_news.asp?id=154132](http://www.4ni.co.uk/northern_ireland_news.asp?id=154132)

Afloat, 15 November 2012

Sea Lice Pose Significant Threat to Wild Salmon Says New Research

About 39% of salmon mortalities were attributable to the impact of **sea lice** on **wild salmon** fisheries, according to a new international study.

The research, published in Proceedings of the Royal Society B, involved experts from **Inland Fisheries Ireland** collaborating with the Scottish Oceans Institute at the University of St Andrews, the Department of Zoology at the University of Otago in New Zealand, the Atlantic Veterinary College at the University of Prince Edward Island in Canada and the Institute of Marine Research in Norway.

In a statement on the report, IFI says: "In previously published studies, groups of salmon smolts were treated to protect them against sea lice infestation and other groups were untreated and both groups released to sea into 10 areas of Ireland and Norway. A proportion of these released fish were recaptured as adult salmon one or more years later.

"Analysis of the results of all previously published studies together provide experimental evidence from a large marine ecosystem that sea lice can have large impacts on salmon recruitment, fisheries, and conservation. The sea lice were likely acquired during early marine migration in areas with salmon farming, which elevate local abundances of sea lice."

IFI says the results "indicate that parasite-associated mortality may cause the closure of some fisheries when conservation targets of return adult abundances are not being met. However, the implications of these results may be most serious for small populations in small river systems."

The inland fisheries body explains that the high natural mortality rate of both treated and untreated salmon groups was accounted for, which revealed "a large effect of parasites".

"Precisely because natural mortality rates are high, even a proportionally small additive mortality from parasites can amount to a large loss in adult salmon recruitment," it adds.

Minister of State for Natural Resources Fergus O'Dowd welcomed the report, stating: "From the results of this detailed study, it is crucial that sea lice levels are maintained below [designated] protocol levels, particularly in spring when wild salmon smolts are migrating to sea to avoid increased marine mortality.

Minister O'Dowd added that the results of this study "augment our knowledge in the context of proposals for aquaculture development".

The news comes in the wake of IFI's dispute with Bord Iascaigh Mhara over the exclusion of a report critical of the proposed new deep sea wild salmon farm in Galway Bay from the statutory consultation.

The scheme has faced opposition from local salmon anglers who fear the new facility would pose a threat to wild salmon stocks in Irish rivers by increasing the risk of sea lice infection.

<http://afloat.ie/inland/inland-waterways/item/20346-sea-lice-pose-significant-threat-to-wild-salmon-says-new-research>

Inland Fisheries Ireland, 15 November 2012

### Devastating impact on Wild Salmon populations from Sea Lice

Inland Fisheries Ireland has collaborated in an international study to examine the impact of sea lice on the marine survival of Atlantic salmon. In a newly published report, results reveal that that on average 39% of salmon mortalities were attributable to sea lice which impacts wild salmon numbers and therefore wild salmon fisheries.

In previously published studies, groups of salmon smolts were treated to protect them against sea lice infestation and other groups were untreated and both groups released to sea into 10 areas of Ireland and Norway. A proportion of these released fish were recaptured as adult salmon one or more years later. Analysis of the results of all previously published studies together provide experimental evidence from a large marine ecosystem that sea lice can have large impacts on salmon recruitment, fisheries, and conservation. The sea lice were likely acquired during early marine migration in areas with salmon farming, which elevate local abundances of sea lice. The research, published in Proceedings of the Royal Society B, involved experts from the the Scottish Oceans Institute at the University of St Andrews, The Department of Zoology at the University of Otago in New Zealand, the Atlantic Veterinary College at the University of Prince Edward Island in Canada, the Institute of Marine

Research in Norway, the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research and Inland Fisheries Ireland.

Results indicate that parasite-associated mortality may cause the closure of some fisheries when conservation targets of return adult abundances are not being met. However, the implications of these results may be most serious for small populations in small river systems. The concern therefore is not only for a 39% loss in salmon abundance, but also the loss of genetic variability.

In these studies, high marine mortality naturally affects both treated and untreated salmon groups. However, analyses in this study allowed for the high natural mortality to be accounted for and isolated the estimated loss of salmon recruitment due to parasitism, revealing a large effect of parasites. Precisely because natural mortality rates are high, even a proportionally small additive mortality from parasites can amount to a large loss in adult salmon recruitment.

The finding that sea lice are responsible for 39 per cent of the mortalities amongst salmon in the Northeast Atlantic Ocean is significant in the context of declining salmon stocks across Europe. The salmon aquaculture industry in Ireland are required to maintain sea lice levels below designated Protocol levels to protect wild fish from increased sea lice infestation. The treatment against sea lice had a significant positive effect on survival.

Minister of State with responsibility for Natural Resources Fergus O Dowd, TD, welcomed the report stating “from the results of this detailed study, it is crucial that sea lice levels are maintained below these protocol levels, particularly in spring when wild salmon smolts are migrating to sea to avoid increased marine mortality. I have consistently given my support for the development of aquaculture, and its reported potential for job creation, which complies with our obligations under the relevant EU environmental legislation and in particular the EU Habitats Directive. The results from the latest comprehensive study augment our knowledge in the context of proposals for aquaculture development. I am equally conscious of the imperative to develop Ireland’s angling sector, worth an estimated €150m annually to the national economy and to ensure a cohesive approach to development across Departments and State Agencies involved in both sectors”.

Ends

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**Notes to the Editor**

The full report can be downloaded from

<http://rspb.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/early/2012/11/01/rspb.2012.2359.full>

**Inland Fisheries Ireland** is a statutory body operating under the aegis of the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources and was established under the Fisheries Act on 1st July 2010. Its principal function is the protection and conservation of the inland fisheries resource. IFI promotes, supports, facilitates and advises the Minister on, the conservation, protection, management, development and improvement of inland fisheries, including sea angling. It also develops and advises the Minister on policy and national strategies relating to inland fisheries and sea angling. [www.fisheriesireland.ie](http://www.fisheriesireland.ie)

<http://www.fisheriesireland.ie/Press-releases/devastating-impact-on-wild-salmon-populations-from-sea-lice.html>

The Scotsman, 15 November 2012

Something fishy

Richard Lochhead is Cabinet secretary for rural affairs and environment in the Scottish Government. That means part of his portfolio is to protect the Scottish marine environment. Why then does he continually go out of his way to promote the expansion of salmon farming (your report, 12 November)?

These floating factory fish farms are a blight on our environment and cause pollution of the seabed, infestations of sea lice on the migratory routes of sea trout and wild salmon plus the deliberate killing of seals.

Lochhead would be better employed encouraging the people of Japan to come and visit Scotland to enjoy our coastal lochs and see our fantastic wildlife instead of sacrificing our natural heritage to sell them factory farmed fish.

John F Robins

Animal Concern Advice Line

Dumbarton

<http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/opinion/letters/something-fishy-1-2633533>

The Globe & Mail, 15 November 2012

Treating farmed salmon for sea lice prevents transfer to wild fish

MARK HUME

VANCOUVER — Salmon farmers in British Columbia have effectively broken a “transmission cycle” in which sea lice were being spread from farmed to wild fish, according to a new scientific paper.

The transmission of sea lice from farms, where millions of fish are raised in tightly packed ocean pens, has been blamed for the collapse of wild salmon stocks, particularly in the Broughton Archipelago off the northeast coast of Vancouver Island, where some runs of pink salmon have declined by as much as 90 per cent in some years.

But a paper published by the Ecological Society of America states that when farmers in that region treat their stock with a chemical known as Slice, they can knock back the sea lice population so effectively that few of the parasites transfer to wild fish.

The paper also reports, however, that farms should use the treatment earlier in the year to maximize the impact.

“It’s a very effective drug for now in British Columbia, as long as it’s used at the right time,” said Stan Proboszcz, one of the authors of the paper and a biologist with Watershed Watch Salmon Society.

Mr. Proboszcz said the research, which was led by Stephanie Peacock of the University of Alberta and Martin Krkosek of the University of Otago, New Zealand, looked at sea lice infestations in farmed and wild salmon stocks over a nine-year period.

The researchers found that outbreaks in the wild populations were significantly lower when farmed fish were treated with Slice late in winter, before wild juvenile pink salmon had begun to migrate past the net pens.

Sea lice outbreaks in the Broughton Archipelago were blamed after some runs of wild pink salmon were virtually wiped out in 2002. In response, some farms along the salmon migration route were left fallow and regulations were set requiring farmed salmon to be treated with pesticides when there were signs of sea lice outbreaks.

Mr. Proboszcz said that, as farms have adopted the use of Slice over the past decade, the mortality rate for wild salmon has fallen.

“Our results indicate positive conservation outcomes due to adaptive changes in management of parasites in salmon aquaculture facilities,” the paper states. “These results provide an example of how management of sea lice on farm salmon can be improved, with relevance to management of sea lice on farm salmon in Canada, Europe and other areas of the world.”

However, Mr. Proboszcz said he fears Slice could lose its effectiveness, as it has in some places in the Atlantic.

“In every other jurisdiction, resistance has developed. We haven’t seen it yet in B.C., but that remains a concern,” he said.

Currently, fish farmers are required to treat salmon with Slice between March and June, when sea lice outbreaks occur. But Ms. Peacock said treatments earlier in the year are advisable.

“Government regulators should take note of this independent research and consider adjusting sea lice management regulations accordingly,” she said.

Mary Ellen Walling, executive director of the B.C. Salmon Farmers Association, said her industry welcomes the research findings, which confirm what it has long believed.

“The paper really does show the farms’ management practices are effective,” she said.

Ms. Walling said salmon farmers have been shifting to treatment earlier in the year and will continue that trend.

She said farmers are also aware of the risk that sea lice could develop a resistance to Slice, so they are using the chemical only in small amounts.

“We don’t want to overuse that therapeutic,” she said.

### **More Related to this Story**

- [Commission presses Ottawa to curb fish-farm impact on sockeye](#)
- [Cohen report’s message resonates in Atlantic Canada](#)
- [salmon inquirySalmon probe shows need for reform, group says](#)

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/british-columbia/treating-farmed-salmon-for-sea-lice-prevents-transfer-to-wild-fish/article5335578/>

The Province/The Canadian Press, 15 November 2012

Salmon health could be improved with timed lice treatment



A University of Alberta-led research team has discovered that by changing the timing of sea lice treatments, both captive and wild salmon can be spared from devastating sea lice infestations.

Photograph by: Stuart Davis , PROVINCE

VANCOUVER — Saving B.C.'s troubled wild salmon stocks while improving the health of farmed Atlantic salmon raised along the B.C. coast may be a simple matter of timing.

A University of Alberta-led research team has discovered that by changing the timing of sea lice treatments, both captive and wild salmon can be spared from devastating sea lice infestations.

Researchers targeted fish farms in the Broughton Archipelago — the islet-choked passage between the mainland and the northern tip of Vancouver Island — and found salmon farmers in the area have gradually shifted the timing of anti-parasite treatments to the fall and winter months.

The result is healthier farmed salmon and fewer sea lice in coastal waters as juvenile pink salmon migrate past farmed salmon pens each spring.

According to researchers, mortality from sea lice for juvenile pink salmon had fallen to less than four per cent by 2009, down from an estimated 90 per cent mortality rate in the early 2000s.

The research is published in the journal *Ecological Applications*, by Stephanie Peacock and supervisor Mark Lewis, in collaboration with scientists from the University of Otago, New Zealand and the Watershed Watch Salmon Society.

<http://www.theprovince.com/news/vancouver/Salmon+health+could+improved+with+timed+lice+treatment/7554747/story.html#axzz2CKkkvC4d>

PR Web, 14 November 2012

Investigation of the Recall of Costco Smoked Salmon

Scott Starr, of the Indiana law firm of Starr, Austen & Miller, LLP, announced today that the firm is investigating the recall of imported European smoked salmon sold in the U.S. at Costco Wholesale stores due to concerns over salmonella contamination.

Scott Starr, of the Indiana law firm of [Starr, Austen & Miller, LLP](#), announced today that the firm is investigating the recall of imported European smoked salmon sold in the U.S. at Costco Wholesale stores due to concerns over salmonella contamination.

The European imported Salmon was sold in the United States under two brand names, Foppen and Kirkland Signature Salmon. Both of the products were manufactured by the Netherlands based Foppen Company, the Foppen brand being processed at a factory based in

Greece, while the Kirkland Signature brand coming out of a facility in the Netherlands. The salmonella bacteria has only been verified in the Greek facility, but the Kirkland brand processed in the Netherland plant was also recalled as a precaution. (See: <http://www.usatoday.com/story/money/business/2012/10/02/salmonella-salmon-outbreak/1608099/>)

Both the Foppen and Kirkland Signature Brand of smoked salmon were widely distributed in the United States through sale at the Costco Wholesale store chain, with an estimate 250,000 units distributed. The products have a shelf life of approximately 26 days, so units bought from the middle of September, 2012, until early October and the beginning of the recall are impacted. (Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/10/costco-recalls-smoked-salmon-sold-to-quarter-of-a-million-customers/>)

The recall was initiated after contamination at the Greek Foppen facility led to an extensive salmonella outbreak in Europe, linked to several hundred illnesses centered in the Netherlands. (Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/10/costco-recalls-smoked-salmon-sold-to-quarter-of-a-million-customers/>)

Starr, who is a partner in the firm, and is an attorney with experience in product liability claims, stated “In food contamination cases it is imperative that a consumer who believes that they are impacted see a healthcare professional immediately, not only for treatment but also that he or she performs appropriate tests, preferably before any antibiotics are administered, to determine what particular food borne pathogen is responsible for your symptoms. This clears one of the largest hurdles in products liability litigation, proving your individual link to the larger outbreak.”

The Foppen Company has estimated that more than 100 cases of illness have resulted in the United States from the outbreak. The U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention stated that it was still reviewing the data concerning the severity of the outbreak and has not released an official estimate of the number of cases involved. To help with this process the CDC requests that any such cases be reported immediately to your local Health Department. (See: <http://www.usatoday.com/story/money/business/2012/10/02/salmonella-salmon-outbreak/1608099/>)

If you purchased one of the packages of smoked salmon from Costco which are involved in the recall and later contracted a bacterial infection, you may be able to seek legal recourse in the form of a product liability lawsuit. Talk to [an experienced personal injury attorney](#) who also has experience with products liability claims who can help you understand your options.

<http://www.prweb.com/releases/2012/11/prweb10136466.htm>

The Vancouver Sun, 14 November 2012

B.C. urged to not renew leases for open-net salmon farms

Larry Pynn

VANCOUVER - Aboriginals and environmentalists on Wednesday urged the B.C. government not to renew leases for open-net salmon farms on the B.C. coast.

The groups say they are planning to hold a peaceful demonstration outside Premier Christy Clark's constituency office in Point Grey at noon and deliver an 11,000-signature petition expressing opposition to the renewal of salmon farm leases in B.C.

In a statement, Molina Dawson of the Dzawada'enuxw First Nation from Kingcome Inlet said: "I know without a doubt that the cost to our wild salmon — and everything that relies on them — isn't worth it. So, as long as the government and fish farm companies are actively endangering our fish they will not be getting any support from me."

The Cohen Commission report last month suggested that salmon farms "have the potential to introduce exotic diseases and to exacerbate endemic diseases which can have a negative effect on Fraser River sockeye."

Cohen said that Fraser sockeye could suffer "serious or irreversible harm" if exposed to disease and that the federal fisheries department needs to recognize the possible risk of disease transfer between wild and farm fish.

However, he declined to quantify the scale of risk, saying it "requires further study."

As a result, Cohen is recommending that federal fisheries undertake a decisive study of the risks to wild salmon from Discovery Islands fish farming operations, north of Campbell River, with conclusive results by 2020, as well as an annual cap on salmon production.

If by that year the DFO "cannot confidently say the risk of serious harm is minimal," then the area should be closed to salmon farming, Cohen said. That should happen sooner if research confirms a link, he added.

Said Alexandra Morton, an independent salmon researcher: "Cohen states that if salmon farms have more than minimal risk of serious harm, they should cease operations. We are well past minimum risk."

Opponents argue that while much of the oversight for salmon aquaculture is managed by the federal government, the province issues sea-floor tenures for salmon farms and a number of leases are up for renewal, including 18 in the Broughton Archipelago.

[lpynn@vancouversun.com](mailto:lpynn@vancouversun.com)

<http://www.vancouversun.com/news/metro/urged+renew+leases+open+salmon+farms/7547659/story.html>

The Tyee, 13 November 2012

Dzawada'enuxw First Nation to Christy Clark: Don't renew fish farm licences

By **Crawford Kilian**

A delegation from the Dzawada'enuxw First Nation in Kingcome Inlet will deliver an 11,000-signature petition to Premier Christy Clark's constituency office on Wednesday, November 14. The message: Don't renew open net-pen fish farm licences.

The First Nation has direct experience with the nearby Broughton Archipelago fish farms that were under scrutiny by the recently concluded [Cohen Commission](#). A 2009 [community profile](#) says: "Our salmon and eulachon runs are declining and most youth do not participate in traditional practices such as hunting and fishing." The profile also says that as of the year 2000, "Pink Salmon runs in the Kingcome have declined from 100,000 to less than 20,000 per year; Chum have dwindled from 50000 to less than 2,000. Chinook runs have been extinguished entirely."

The Tyee spoke with Molina Dawson, a Kingcome resident who also took part in the [2010 march](#) down Vancouver Island in support of wild salmon.

Speaking from the ferry en route from Nanaimo to Vancouver, Dawson told The Tyee: "We hope to make sure the licences for fish farms aren't renewed. We need to get the farms out, and soon." She said wild-salmon advocate Alexandra Morton would also be at the event on Wednesday, as well as many other supporters.

Members of the Dzawada'enuxw First Nation plan to arrive at Clark's constituency office, 3615 W. Fourth Avenue near Dunbar, at noon on Wednesday.

*Crawford Kilian is a contributing editor of The Tyee.*

[http://thetyee.ca/Blogs/TheHook/Aboriginal-Affairs/2012/11/13/Dont\\_renew\\_licences/](http://thetyee.ca/Blogs/TheHook/Aboriginal-Affairs/2012/11/13/Dont_renew_licences/)

The Vancouver Sun, 13 November 2012

Wild salmon are doomed without policy changes

Re: Salmon farmers respond to Cohen report reaction, Nov. 5

I failed to find in the Cohen report commendation of "B.C. Salmon farmers for collecting and providing an impressive 10-year fish-health database," as Clare Backman of the B.C. Salmon Farmers Association contends.

I did find that in July 2010 the Aquaculture Coalition and Conservation Coalition made "an application seeking documents relating to fish health, pathogens, and disease, as well as stocking data in farmed salmon."

This application resulted in 10 years data being made public as exhibits in the inquiry.

As to correlation between health of farmed salmon and decline of sockeye, it is true the report does not place blame exclusively. Indeed, the commission's terms of reference include "to conduct the inquiry without seeking to find fault."

However, regarding salmon farms Cohen states in Vol. 3, page 22, "I therefore conclude that the potential harm posed to Fraser River sockeye salmon from salmon farms is serious or irreversible."

The terms of reference directed the commission to "make recommendations for improving the future sustainability of the sockeye salmon fishery in the Fraser River." We are fortunate

to have the Honourable Justice's exemplary work toward this end. I call upon British Columbians to download the report from [cohencommission.ca](http://cohencommission.ca) and read it for themselves.

Ian Stephen Chilliwack

<http://www.vancouversun.com/Wild+salmon+doomed+without+policy+changes/7538387/story.html>

Intrafish, 13 November 2012



## Chefs like it, but will investors buy into land-farmed salmon

Land-based Atlantic salmon farming has not been proven commercially viable yet, but it just might as one of the world's only land-based Atlantic salmon farms goes public with its plans.

 Jeanine Stewart

Published: 13 November 2012 02:21 PM

Updated: 13 November 2012 09:57 PM

Thirty years from now, will we all look back and say, "remember the days when they used to raise salmon in the ocean?"

The jury is still out, but that scenario is possible, and technological changes can sometimes sneak up on us – remember the Internet? The iPhone?

Canadian seafood distributor Albion Fisheries is finding plenty of demand for a 25 to 30 percent price markup for closed-containment farmed salmon, which it will obtain for salmon it plans to sell from the 'Namgis closed-containment salmon farm in British Columbia, Canada. Using the scientific expertise of US-based Conservation Fund's Freshwater Institute, the 'Namgis plan to have their fish on the market by January of 2014.

"While I wouldn't say it's all sold, we do have interest from enough companies that we'll be able to move the product without looking for customers," Guy Dean, Albion fisheries vice president and chief sustainability officer, told IntraFish.

Atlantic Salmon Federation President Bill Taylor told IntraFish there are concrete indications closed-containment farmed salmon will do well on the market.

### Associated Articles

- Land-based salmon farm on track for sales launch
- 'Green' salmon license proposal in Norway
- Investors throw \$7 million at land-based Atlantic salmon farming
- Land-based salmon farm nabs \$975,000 grant

The federation did blind taste tests through a joint venture with the Freshwater Institute, and it found executive chefs on the west coast of Canada preferred closed-containment farmed Atlantic salmon to that raised in open net pens in the ocean.

"We've had discussions with fish distributors, and there is a huge demand -- consumers want to buy a healthy product that is great, that is sustainable, and I think that is what the public is seeing," Taylor said.

Twenty percent of America's population is willing to pay more for sustainable products, Sue Scott, vice president of communications for the Atlantic Salmon Federation, told **IntraFish**.

Dean plans to develop a marketing initiative to set this product apart from the other farmed salmon Albion sells.

"We want to be able to differentiate this product from other products so that they understand the difference," Dean said. In the long run, the product may even have its own logo.

Retailers with sustainability commitments -- which nearly all the large ones have -- are prime targets, but so are mid to high-end restaurants, Dean said.

Walmart, Loblaw and countless others have made commitments to source sustainably. But supply is very limited, which means Dean may have to make some diplomatic decisions about who gets it and how much they can have access to.

"Our intent is to get a fairly broad customer base and, of course, with this product -- because of the cost involved in producing it -- we want to make sure we're targeting it on those customers that are best going to appreciate this product," Dean said. "We're certainly excited about this opportunity because we do think this is the future of seafood."

#### **Lighting a fire**

But no matter how much enthusiasm can catch on with buyers and consumers, that same enthusiasm would need to catch on with investors before production can spread.

While the project is expected to be viable on its own once salmon begin being sold, the \$5 million (€6.3 million) in startup costs relied almost entirely on investor funding.

But some of the technological questions that the project is working out -- which take time and money -- are being shared, which could help the technology catch on while saving future ventures some money.

Tides Canada has had four aquaculture innovation workshops to make sure the information is shared internationally as broadly as it can be.

Helping spread the word is the project's main objective, from the standpoint of Eric Hobson, president of the SOS Marine Conservation Foundation. He is also on the project's board of directors, which is entitled K'udas and was appointed by the Namgis First Nations Council. None of the project's technology -- save some of the individual companies' contributions which don't pertain specifically to land-based farming -- is proprietary.

"That's why we did it -- so the information would be available to others to promote development of the industry," Hobson told **IntraFish**.

The next step, he said, is to attract investors.

<http://www.intrafish.com/global/news/article1358901.ece>

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Food & Water Watch, 9 November 2012

Release the Hormones: rBGH and GE salmon?



By [Tim Schwab](#)

On Halloween, AquaBounty, the company that wants to feed you [genetically engineered \(GE\) salmon](#), saw its fortunes change. A well-connected biotech company called Intrexon swooped in to buy around half the stock of the near-bankrupt AquaBounty.

Intrexon is run by the former head of Monsanto and a former vice-president from Pfizer and McDonalds. Intrexon's senior vice president and animal science head is Thomas Kasser, [a 20-year veteran from Monsanto](#), where he worked on recombinant bovine growth hormone (rBGH). This highly controversial drug was eventually used to increase milk production, mostly by factory farms. Kasser boasts his experience [guiding Monsanto products through the FDA's](#) Center for Veterinary Medicine, the same agency reviewing GE salmon.

Like rBGH, GE salmon exhibits high levels of insulin-like growth factor-1 (or IGF), a hormone that has been [linked to a variety of cancers](#) in humans. GE salmon express 40 percent higher rates of the hormone than non-GE salmon, suggesting a significant risk to consumers. The American Cancer Society [acknowledges the link between IGF-1 and cancer](#), but has stated that more independent science is needed before any conclusions can be made about the safety of products like rBGH.

Well, that's [the job of the FDA](#), which, as usual, is asleep at the switch. The federal agency approved rBGH in 1993 and it became widely used in American dairies for about a decade, despite concerns over IGF-1 and the fact that most other industrialized nations banned it. After more science emerged, many American companies, including Kroger, Walmart and Starbucks, took the extraordinary measure of [independently banning rBGH](#) from their products.

Do we really want to repeat this dangerous practice of fast-tracking untested "innovations" into our food system? According to FDA Commissioner Margaret Hamburg, the answer is yes: GE salmon is slated for approval "very soon," even though [most consumers don't want](#) to see the fish hit the market.

This is troubling because the FDA will base its regulatory decision on the woefully inadequate and biased data provided by AquaBounty. Independent scientists have skewered the FDA's risk assessment, noting that serious environmental concerns have not been examined while food safety issues, related to hormone levels and allergies, have been glossed over. AquaBounty [hasn't even demonstrated](#) that GE salmon can grow faster than non-GE salmon, the whole reason they say it should be approved.

Nor do we know if the gene construct used in GE salmon is safe for the fish. Before rBGH was approved by the FDA, outside observers raised concerns over the health impacts of rBGH on cattle, which were later confirmed in subsequent studies. The hormone causes increased rates of infections that require antibiotic use, driving antibiotic resistance, a major public health problem. In the same way, the very limited data we have on GE salmon shows deformities and malformations in GE salmon that you don't see in non-GE salmon. The data, while severely flawed, also suggests that GE salmon may be dying prematurely.

Finally, rBGH and GE salmon share similar [labeling concerns](#). The FDA refused to require labeling of dairy products containing rBGH, and even attempts by companies to label their products as rBGH-free resulted in major legal battles. We can fully expect that FDA's regulatory approval of GE salmon will usher in another round of unlabeled biotech food products.

Unfortunately, regulatory decisions at the FDA seem guided as much by money and politics as they are by science. AquaBounty and its major biotech ally, the Biotechnology Industry Organization, [spent \\$8 million lobbying](#) in 2011 alone, trying to influence rules and regulations over issues like GE salmon. With former Monsanto executives now backing GE salmon, we can expect Intrexon will be working hard to muscle GE salmon through the FDA.

Consumers don't have million-dollar accounts with K-street lobbyists, but we do have a powerful voice of opposition, one that has effectively put the brakes on this untested laboratory experiment for more than two years. Let's keep up the pressure.

[Tell the FDA to deny AquaBounty's](#) application for this unnecessary, untested new GE fish.

<http://www.foodandwaterwatch.org/blogs/release-the-hormones-rbgh-and-ge-salmon/>

Campbell River Mirror, 9 November 2012

Perennial naysayers

Re: "Cohen commission report must be acted upon," "Don't be duped by story," Nov. 7, 2012

Perennial aquaculture naysayers Leona Adams and Paul Dean seem to believe that if they repeat myths often enough, people will think they are facts.

They make numerous claims about the Cohen Commission report which are plainly false at worst, and distortions of the truth at best.

The good news is that anyone with a computer can easily test their claims for themselves. The entire report is available online for the public to read.

In his report, Justice Bruce Cohen plainly states that there is no scientific evidence to suggest that salmon farms are in any way linked with the decline of sockeye salmon. He also points out that the decline is coast-wide, from Alaska to California, and that the "elephant in the room" is climate change.

Too bad that Adams and Dean, who are eager to play the role of our environmental guardians, have completely ignored the “elephant in the room.”

Cohen’s report is a “proceed with caution” message for salmon farms. He suggests more research to show definitively that farms do not harm wild salmon runs, and we’re happy to follow his advice.

Aquaculture is part of the solution to saving wild salmon. You can’t save wild fish by catching and eating them all. We provide a healthy, safe alternative source of seafood to meet the growing demand which capture fisheries just can’t meet.

The Cohen report shows that farmed and wild salmon can co-exist in the same ocean. Now is the time to move on from the tired old debates and work together on tackling the “elephant in the room.”

*Grant Warkentin,*

*Mainstream Canada Communications Officer*

<http://www.campbellrivermirror.com/opinion/letters/177988231.html>

Fish Update, 7 November 2012

Mull fin fish farm approved after local hearing



A COMMUNITY united – that was the message at a planning hearing on the Isle of Mull, Argyll, Scotland, as councillors voted unanimously to approve plans for a fish farm.

The Scottish Salmon Company (SSC) applied for permission to construct a fin fish farm in Loch Tuath off Gometra on the west of Mull.

The plans were recommended for approval by Argyll and Bute Council’s planning department.

Penny Hawdon of SSC said she wanted to thank the ‘people living and working on Mull who have supported us through the application process’.

An extra four jobs will be created when the site is developed bringing the total of full time SSC staff on the island to 14.

Many locals voiced their support for the plans at the hearing in Dervaig Village Hall. Rebecca Munro lives and runs a business on Ulva.

She said: ‘There have been a lot of positive community benefits, a lot of people have family members who rely on fish farm jobs.’

She added: ‘I would prefer it if objectors would tell the truth. The more mistruths that are told the stronger the community gets.’

A last minute letter had been received by the council on Friday. It came from environmental lawyers employed by the owner of Gometra, Roc Sandford, and claimed approving the plans would be in breach of EU law.

Principal planning officer Richard Kerr said: ‘It is regrettable such a late representation has been made and I would suggest it is a tactical ploy to inhibit due process.’

The letter also suggested that there would be a legal challenge mounted to any permission granted by the planning committee.

Mr Sandford had raised concerns during the hearing about boat navigation should cages be installed but this was disputed by qualified navigators.

He told The Oban Times: ‘I think everyone on Gometra is extremely disappointed that legitimate safety concerns were ignored.’

Speaking after the hearing Stewart McLelland, chief executive of SSC said: ‘We’re delighted that the planning committee have approved our proposals.

‘We look forward to working with the people of Mull and developing and supporting the island as we go forward.’

[http://www.fishupdate.com/news/fullstory.php/aid/18507/Mull\\_fin\\_fish\\_farm\\_approved\\_after\\_local\\_hearing.html](http://www.fishupdate.com/news/fullstory.php/aid/18507/Mull_fin_fish_farm_approved_after_local_hearing.html)

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### **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:

**21 November - “Showdon 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](#)

13 July - "Aquaculture PR Wars"/"Beware Mother Nature"/"Trouble Brewing" - [online here](#)

11 July - "Salmon Wars Are Here"/"Smoking Gun"/"Canada disease cleanup" - [online here](#)

9 July - "Killer Panda"/"Quarantined Salmon to be Destroyed"/"PR War Waged" - [online here!](#)

6 July - "CFIA quarantines fish farm"/"Parasite found in Norwegian-owned salmon" - [online here!](#)

4 July - "Parasite-ridden salmon sold in BC stores"/"95% of BC salmon is BAP certified" - [online here!](#)



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

So long and thanks for all the fish!

