

## Press Update – 18 October 2012

“Teen Fights Salmon Farms”/“Lawsuit Threat”/“Cermaq Appeal”/“Health Indicators Worsen” – in full [online here!](#)

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

“[Marlborough Sounds teen fights salmon farms](#)” (3 News, 18 October)



“[Seal Friendly' salmon](#)” (BBC News, 18 October)

“[Fish farm approval sparks lawsuit threat: Proposed Clayoquot Sound site divides neighbouring First Nations](#)” (The Times Colonist, 18 October)

“[STOP NORWEGIAN FISH FARMS FROM KILLING WILD SALMON: Declaration for Wild Salmon & flag are headed to Scotland & Ireland!](#)” (Wild Salmon First, 18 October)



“[Birthplace of salmon feedlots in Canada](#)” (Alexandra Morton, 18 October)

[“Cleaner Fish: A new tool to mitigate sea lice”](#) (The Coaster, 18 October)

[“Nitrogen introduction a major issue – witness”](#) (Marlborough Express, 18 October)

[“More samples urged”](#) (Marlborough Express, 18 October)

[“NZ King Salmon hearing wraps up”](#) (Nelson Mail, 18 October)

[“Role of conditions highlighted”](#) (Marlborough Express, 18 October)

[“Salmon industry health indicators worsen, according to Intesal ”](#) (FIS, 18 October)

[“Salmon farming expansion threatens fishermen livelihoods”](#) (Hebrides News, 17 October)

[“St. Mary's council not a fan of open-pen aquaculture”](#) (Guysborough Journal, 17 October)

[“CEO: Customers want land-based farmed salmon”](#) (Intrafish, 17 October)

[“Can Norway limit the size of a company’s salmon farming operations?”](#) (Intrafish, 17 October)

[“Politics holds back animal engineers”](#) (Nature, 17 October)

[“Norwegian Salmon Farming Giant Appeals Loss in Defamation Case Against Activist Don Staniford”](#) (The Common Sense Canadian, 17 October)

[“Mainstream to appeal decision”](#) (Courier-Islander, 17 October)

[“Oddekalv: Mainstream bærer ved til balet”](#) (Intrafish, 17 October)

onsdag 17 oktober 2012



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## Oddekalv: Mainstream bærer ved til bålet

Mainstream Canada har anket dommen som nettopp frifant Don Staniford.

### Les også

- Cermaq tar dommen til etterretning
- Staniford vant over Cermaq

[“World leading fish farm facility”](#) (The Fish Site, 17 October)

[“Council process ‘too slow’”](#) (Marlborough Express, 17 October)

[“Proposed farm moved, but concerns remain”](#) (Marlborough Express, 17 October)

[“Vancouver Island First Nations sign agreement with fish farm”](#) (Business in Vancouver, 17 October)

[“Salmon farm licence consultation begins”](#) (World Fishing & Aquaculture, 16 October)

[“Offshore farms grow bigger tuna”](#) (Science Alert, 16 October)

[“Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations Opposes DFO Approval Of Mainstream Canada's Plover Point Fish Farm”](#) (Indigenous Peoples Issues & Resources, 16 October)

[“Norsk oppdrettsgigant tar lakseaktivist til retten igjen”](#) (Aftenposten, 16 October)

## Norsk oppdrettsgigant tar lakseaktivist til retten igjen

Norskeide Mainstream Canada anker frifinnelsen av lakseaktivist Don Staniford i injuriansaken som var anlagt mot ham i British Columbia i Canada. Nå tar briten oppdrettskrigen til Norge sammen med Kurt Oddekalv.

Arbeid! 24 personer anbefaler dette. Bli den første blant vennene.

På forsiden akkurat nå

[“Don Staniford’s response to Cermaq’s appeal”](#) (You Tube, 16 October)

[“Legal Action Vs. Cermaq in Clayoquot?”](#) (Green Around the Gills, 16 October)

[“Activist sticks to his guns in face of court appeal”](#) (The Courier-Islander, 16 October)

[“B.C. salmon farming company appeals judge's ruling in defamation case”](#) (The Canadian Press/Ottawa Citizen/Montreal Gazette/Global News/The Tyee/MSN/CTV/CBC, 16 October)

[“Cermaq Dig Deeper Hole by Appealing Lawsuit Loss”](#) (Green Around the Gills, 16 October)

[“Nordea forecasts 75% dive in Cermaq earnings”](#) (Undercurrent News, 16 October)

[“Mainstream Canada appeal Staniford ruling”](#) (The Westerly News, 16 October)

[“Mainstream Canada appeals defamation decision – initial ruling against Mainstream hung on a ‘technical issue’, lawyer says”](#) (Intrafish, 16 October)

[“Mainstream Canada appeals ruling”](#) (World Fishing & Aquaculture, 16 October)

[“Mainstream against Staniford”](#) (Norwegian Fish Farmer, 16 October)

[“Iwi not consulted – lawyer”](#) (Marlborough Express, 16 October)

[“Trial and error over time”](#) (Marlborough Express, 16 October)

[“Aran fish farm could create 500 jobs”](#) (The Irish Times, 16 October)

[“Council wants details”](#) (Marlborough Express, 16 October)

[“Cermaq concentrates over 55 pc of its salmon business in Chile”](#) (FIS, 16 October)

[“B.C. salmon farm appeals defamation ruling/Fish farming firm appeals ruling in defamation case”](#) (The Canadian Press/Metro News/The Vancouver Sun, 15 October)



[“Mainstream Canada appeals defamation ruling”](#) (Mainstream Canada, 15 October)

[“Foppen’s ‘grief’ as two die from infected salmon: Dutch health agency say death toll could reach 17, with potentially 10,000 people being infected by now”](#) (Intrafish, 15 October)

[“Verlasso & Inland Seafood Harmoniously Raised Salmon Heading Southeast”](#) (Perishable News, 15 October)

[“Public consultation on Galway Bay salmon farm begins”](#) (RTE News, 15 October)

[“Another town fighting fish farms”](#) (Alexandra Morton, 15 October)

[“Biologist says Nova Scotia coasts could be 'dump sites'”](#) (South Coast Today, 15 October)

[“New Environment Minister ducks call in on marine pollution”](#) (For Argyll, 15 October)

[“Response to Hugh Mitchell's comments by Todd Sandell”](#) (Port Townsend Leader, 12 October)

[“Unprecedented spread of salmon disease”](#) (Hebrides News, 12 October)

[“Puchi: 'The acquisition just made by Cermaq is good news for the industry'”](#) (Fish Farming Xpert, 12 October)

[“'The judicial sanction is unfair', argues salmon entrepreneur ”](#) (FIS, 11 October)

[“Connecting the dots: Alex Morton goes to Eastern Canada”](#) (Salmon Are Sacred, 11 October)

From [Alexandra Morton](#) (15 October) on her visit to Nova Scotia:

“Feels like we are playing a game with a bunch of cheaters,” said one resident over our dinner - unbelievably delicious lobster chowder..... The people have fire in their eyes. They are deeply attached to their communities and the communities are banding together”



From Ewan Kennedy reporting from Scotland in [For Argyll](#) (15 November):

“Fish ‘farming’ is one of the few industries that are permitted by law actively to pollute the environment; but a company may only do so within an area known as the ‘allowable zone of effects’ (AZE)..... Incredibly, SEPA do not consider sea-lice to be pollution, so the effects on wild fish have not been properly assessed. Under European legislation there should have been environmental assessments into these further matters, especially as the Seil Sound discharges directly into the Firth of Lorn Marine Special Area of Conservation, whose Southern boundary lies at the Cleit Rock in the Cuan. Ignoring the issues may place the government in breach of the Habitats Directive with resultant complaints to the European Commission.”

From [Hebrides News](#) (12 October) on disease problems in the Western Isles in Scotland:

“Amoebic Gill Disease is rife in virtually all sea farms across Lewis, Harris and Uist. It is also affecting Skye, Argyll, Shetland and Orkney.....Marine Harvest spokesman Steve Bracken said: “In June and July weather conditions in the Western Isles were very unusual. As a result we experienced much higher seawater temperatures and higher salinity levels than is the norm which has led to an increase in amoebic gill disease (AGD).”

From Todd Sandell of the Wild Fish Conservancy writing in the [Port Townsend Leader](#) (12 October):

“Now that Infectious Salmon Anemia virus (ISAV) has been detected in B.C., we should be very concerned that this virus will move into WA state waters, as salmon migration pathways lead salmon originating from Puget Sound along the coast of B.C. en route to Alaska before they return to spawn. Statements of assurance that ISA is not in WA are indefensible, because without testing of hatchery, net pen, and wild stocks, we have no way of knowing- and thus we should not be complacent. At present no federal or state agencies are testing for ISA in salmon from Washington waters.”

From [Alexandra Morton](#) on her trip to New Brunswick:

“I have bought two farm salmon since I have been here that have had about 30 lice each.



Most of the lice were buried under the gill flap, where they were not washed off during cleaning. There could have been far more lice to begin with. Someone has a big lice problem right now.”

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

The screenshot shows a GoFundMe page for the "Salmon Disease Testing Fund". At the top, the GoFundMe logo and tagline "The easy way to raise money online." are visible, along with a search bar and navigation links for "Help", "Sign Up", and "Donate". The main title "Salmon Disease Testing" is in a dark blue banner. Below it is a large image of a woman holding a salmon, with the text "Salmon Disease Testing Fund" overlaid. To the right of the image, it says "Created by Alexandra Morton" with 3021 friends and options to "Contact" or "Embed". A text box below the image reads: "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". Below this is a URL "gofundme.com/SalmonDisea", social media share buttons for "Like" (393), "Pin it", "Tweet" (52), and "Email" (57). At the bottom, there is a large blue "DONATE!" button with a checkmark icon. On the left side of the main image, there is a small table with columns for "Fund #", "Fund Name", "Status", "Fund Number", "Fund Date", "Fund Amount", and "Fund Description".

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

The screenshot shows a Change.org petition page. At the top, the Change.org logo and navigation links "Start a Petition", "Browse Petitions", "Find", and "Login or Sign Up" are visible. The main image is a cartoon illustration of a fish tank with several blue fish. A speech bubble from one of the fish says "TELL THE WORLD WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE!". Below the image, it says "Petitioning CEO - Safeway" and "COSTCO, Safeway & Loblaws: Please stop selling diseased farm salmon!". To the right, there is a "Sign this petition" section with "with 14,018 supporters" and a progress bar showing "982 NEEDED". Below this is a sign-up form with fields for "First Name", "Last Name", "Email", "Postal Code", and a dropdown menu for "Spain". There is also a "Why is this important to you?" dropdown menu. At the bottom, there is a red "SIGN" button and a checkbox for "Display my signature publicly". A note at the bottom says "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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3 News, 18 October 2012

### Marlborough Sounds teen fights salmon farms



**Leona Plaisier**

For the past nine weeks the future of New Zealand's aquaculture industry has been up for debate.

King Salmon, 51 percent owned by the Tiong family of Malaysia, is applying for nine salmon farms in the Marlborough Sounds, on top of its five existing ones.

But it wants those farms in areas which currently prohibit aquaculture.

The company's application, which is being heard in front of the environmental protection authority, has attracted more 1400 submissions.

One of those is from a 17-year-old girl, who lives in the sounds and has spent the past six months fighting the multinational.

*Watch Kate King's report.*



<http://www.3news.co.nz/Marlborough-Sounds-teen-fights-salmon-farms/tabid/367/articleID/273249/Default.aspx>

Watch more video via "[Collecting Sea Floor Samples](#)"

BBC Radio 4, 18 October 2012



'Seal Friendly' salmon

461 seals were shot last year in rivers, lochs and at fish farms to protect stocks of fish in Scotland. We investigate the steps being taken to avoid such deaths and hear why even companies whose Scottish salmon is endorsed by the RSPCA say they can't yet guarantee not to shoot seals.

Listen online via: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b01nbqzc>

More details on Scotland's seal killers via: <http://salmonfarmingkills.com/killing-farms>

The Times Colonist, 18 October 2012

Fish farm approval sparks lawsuit threat

Proposed Clayoquot Sound site divides neighbouring First Nations

Judith Lavoie

A Vancouver Island First Nation is considering a lawsuit to stop a new salmon farm site in Clayoquot Sound.

Federal and provincial approvals given to Mainstream Canada for a new site at Plover Point on Meares Island have also opened up a territorial dispute between Ahousaht First Nation, which is working in partnership with Mainstream, and Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation, which vehemently objects to the farm.

"This is actually a shared area between Ahousaht and Tla-o-qui-aht. There's an overlapping issue," said Tla-o-qui-aht councillor Terry Dorward.

Ahousaht Chief John Frank could not be reached on Tuesday.

An emergency meeting with Ahousaht is planned and Tla-o-qui-aht is "investigating legal options" to stop the Plover Point farm, Dorward said.

"Fish disease outbreaks and pollution could devastate our already stressed salmon runs and shellfish sites near the Plover Point site," he said.

"We will not allow governments and industry to run roughshod over our rights to clean water and sustainable fisheries."

There must be independent studies on infectious diseases before any more fish farms are considered in Clayoquot Sound, he said - "especially in an area that's under dispute."

Earlier this year, Mainstream destroyed all fish at its Millar Channel farm in Clayoquot Sound after confirmation of infectious haematopoietic necrosis virus, which can kill Atlantic salmon - the variety raised in fish farms - but is endemic among Pacific populations.

Mainstream spokeswoman Laurie Jensen said the new farm would improve environmental impacts as it would mean closing the Cormorant site, north of Meares Island.

It would also allow the other 13 sites in Clayoquot Sound to be fallow more often.

"This is a good thing, not a bad thing," Jensen said.

Mainstream and Ahousaht have a protocol agreement and more than 60 Ahousaht members work on Mainstream farms, but the company will not get involved in jurisdictional issues, Jensen said.

"We are doing business as usual and trying to stay out of the politics," she said. "That is between the two First Nations."

Tofino council and the Tofino-Long Beach Chamber of Commerce both passed motions opposing the new farm.

Meetings were held between chamber directors and the government, but their input seems to have been ignored, said Chamber of Commerce executive director Gord Johns.

"There is a saturation of fish farms in Clayoquot Sound," Johns said.

"We have seen outbreaks of diseases in the open-net fish farms and sea lice, and we should at least examine what happened before we look at increased density."

Chamber directors emphasized to government that it would be inappropriate to make a decision on Plover Point before the Cohen Commission on the decline of Fraser River sockeye makes its report at the end of this month, Johns said.

The approval has also alarmed environmental groups.

Bonny Glambeck, spokeswoman for Friends of Clayoquot Sound, said the site is within the UNESCO biosphere reserve and along the shores of a tribal park on Meares Island.

"We are concerned this could spread disease, sea lice and pathogens to wild fish," she said, noting that there are also clam beds nearby that could be harmed.

A letter of objection sent to Premier Christy Clark has been signed by Tla-o-qui-aht and environmental groups Friends of Clay-oquot Sound, Living Oceans Society, David Suzuki Foundation, Georgia Strait Alliance, Wilderness Committee, T. Buck Suzuki Foundation and Greenpeace.

The Plover Point site is the first new application approved since Fisheries and Oceans took over responsibility for salmon farms in 2010 and the first given provincial approval since 2008.

The province issues a licence of occupation that allows the farm to operate on Crown land and Fisheries and Oceans Canada has jurisdiction over licensing, fish health and habitat protection.

In an email response to questions, Forests and Lands Ministry spokesman Brennan Clarke said the application was referred to other agencies and local First Nations.

"No significant environmental impacts were identified and the intended use is appropriate under the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Charter," he said.

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

<http://www.timescolonist.com/Fish+farm+approval+sparks+lawsuit+threat/7408384/story.html> and

<http://www.timescolonist.com/business/Clayoquot+Sound+fish+farm+approval+sparks+lawsuit+threat/7408384/story.html>

Read also:

[“Legal Action Vs. Cermaq in Clayoquot?”](#) (Green Around the Gills, 16 October)

[“Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations Opposes DFO Approval Of Mainstream Canada's Plover Point Fish Farm”](#) (Indigenous Peoples Issues & Resources, 16 October)

Wild Salmon First, 18 October 2012

**STOP NORWEGIAN FISH FARMS FROM KILLING WILD SALMON!**

Declaration for Wild Salmon & flag are headed to Scotland & Ireland!



May the global voices for wild salmon unite to deliver the message to Norway; Norwegian fish farms are not welcome and must go!

This November the flag & declaration will be traveling to Scotland & Ireland to support efforts to stop Norwegian owned fish farms from occupying the marine environment.

The more names on the flag the stronger the message to Norway. Your voice matters!

Sign the online [Salmon Declaration](#) to get email updates on how you can participate in delivering the message to Norway that Norwegian owned salmon farms must stop killing wild salmon and get out of the oceans. Email [elena@wildsalmonfirst.org](mailto:elena@wildsalmonfirst.org) for more info.

Click [here](#) for more info on the campaign and photos of those speaking up for wild salmon.

<http://www.wildsalmonfirst.org>

Alexandra Morton, 18 October 2012

Birthplace of salmon feedlots in Canada

We drove to St. Andrews in the rain, the yellow and orange foliage standing out brilliantly in the dark weather. We passed the famous Miramichi River, known for wild Atlantic salmon

fishing. Cooke Aquaculture has a lodge on this river. I wonder if they would ever put one of their own salmon feedlots near this river?

In St. Andrews we met up with Matt Abbott, with Fundy Bay Keepers and Geoff Giffin, with the Atlantic Salmon Federation.



We drove directly to Lime Kiln Bay, the birthplace of industrial salmon feedlots in Canada. From the dock we can see several farms. They are much lower tech. than in British Columbia and none of the farms I have seen so far in the Maritimes have a feed shed attached to them. I was told the farmers travel out the farms a couple times a day to feed the fish, often by hand.



I hear a story I have never heard before; that a DFO official on sabbatical to Norway came back to Canada with the vision that salmon farms could supplement the local economy. He thought small operations of 30,000- 40,000 fish could round out the year for fishermen involved in the lobster and scallop fisheries. But it did not work out the way he envisioned.

Instead of benefiting these fishermen, the industry is now seen as dark threat, sucking their way of life into oblivion.

The community here in New Brunswick tolerated the arrival of salmon feedlots, because at first it was their neighbours who were in the business. When the dreaded ISA virus went lethal, and the sea lice got out of control, these families lost their farms and their investment. Cooke Aquaculture began buying farm after farm.

Now people feel they duped, they let a predator in. They are afraid. No one wants to speak up; their boats might be damaged. Security guards have appeared on docks recording the names of everyone who comes and goes. "What if something happens on the night I go down to my boat," says one man who does not want to be identified, "we come and go to our boats at all hours and I don't like the company recording my movements."

In 2010, the bay was full of chunks of salmon. People said the stench was unbearable.... Everyone looked the other way. Most of the people in the fishing communities know salmon farms are killing their fisheries, but they are afraid.

Janice tells us the salmon farming industry is on the decline in New Brunswick. It is shrinking. It peaked at 37,000 tons, now the New Brunswick harvest is 10,000 tons less. They are suffering from their own waste, disease and lice. I have bought two farm salmon since I have been here that have had about 30 lice each.



Most of the lice were buried under the gill flap, where they were not washed off during cleaning. There could have been far more lice to begin with. Someone has a big lice problem right now. Janice warns Nova Scotia to beware, that the new Brunswick industry is failing and so it has its eye on the little bays of Nova Scotia.



The fishermen noticed the farms are consolidating and moving around to find clean sea floor. They say that while the industry in their area is shrinking, there has been no clean up. Feces and equipment litter the bottom. The used up areas can't be fished. Some think their fisheries will be corporatized. Soon they fear they will be buying their lobster bait from Cooke.



I think back to Jordon Bay and Ricky Hallett's 3-year battle to stop a salmon feedlot that wants to go into water so shallow there will only be 3 meters of water under the farm. Is Cooke trying to buy up the actual lobster grounds? Are they looking at lobster? Is DFO tired of dealing with 1,000s of lobster fishermen? Is the tail wagging the dog?

They tell me "Aquaculture has had a privileged status from the start." No other industry is allowed to dump raw industrial waste over the finest lobster grounds in the world.

## Wild Salmon

I finally got to hear about the wild salmon of the Maritimes. In general, Atlantic salmon have been in decline since the 1970s, but the decline in populations that pass close to salmon farms has been much steeper than elsewhere. This is similar to BC wild salmon. Salmon fishing has been closed on all the rivers that flow into the Bay of Fundy. This year the Atlantic salmon that have been in the river for one year have crashed profoundly. No one knows why.



The Atlantic salmon of the Inner Bay of Fundy are a unique strain and unfortunately for them, they never stray far from the Bay of Fundy and Gulf of Maine. These waters are so rich, the salmon did not need to travel out into the North Atlantic.

After the salmon farms arrived the Inner Bay of Fundy, Atlantic salmon populations began to slide downwards from 45,000 to less than 200. In 2003, they were listed as “endangered” and DFO listed aquaculture as one of the top threats to these salmon. But nothing was done – oh this is so familiar sounding!

The wild salmon of the outer Bay of Fundy migrate out towards Greenland. While they are also sliding downwards, their decline has not been nearly so steep. The St John River system in Inner Fundy, was one of the most productive in the world; it rivaled the legendary Miramichi and Restigouch.

The stories pour out. I am told that big aquaculture told the mayors of the local towns to lobby government on their behalf, or they would not use the local dock facilities. They would just benefit towns that worked on their behalf with government.



## Herring

Fishermen told me that herring weirs that had produced herring for 100 years became barren two years after the salmon feedlots went into the area. I heard the same observations here as in Freeport, that herring will not go near a place where there has been a large fish kill. The fishermen of St. Andrews told me herring avoid the salmon farms and they think it is the presence of the dying farm salmon or the massive areas of the seafloor covered in the industrial waste.



## Cypermethrin

Environment Canada used to be responsible for making unannounced visits to salmon farms to check compliance in delousing drug use. By all accounts Environment Canada was good at this. When fishermen contacted the Fundy North Fishermen's Association and Fundy Bay Keepers, about massive lobster kills near salmon farms, these groups bravely notified

Environment Canada, which did a thorough investigation. While the Canadian Food Inspection Agency was unable to detect Cypermethrin. Environment Canada laid charges.

Senior officials with [Cooke Aquaculture](#) each face up to \$11 million in fines and up to 30 years in jail. The court proceedings are being conducted behind closed doors and many fear nothing will come of it.

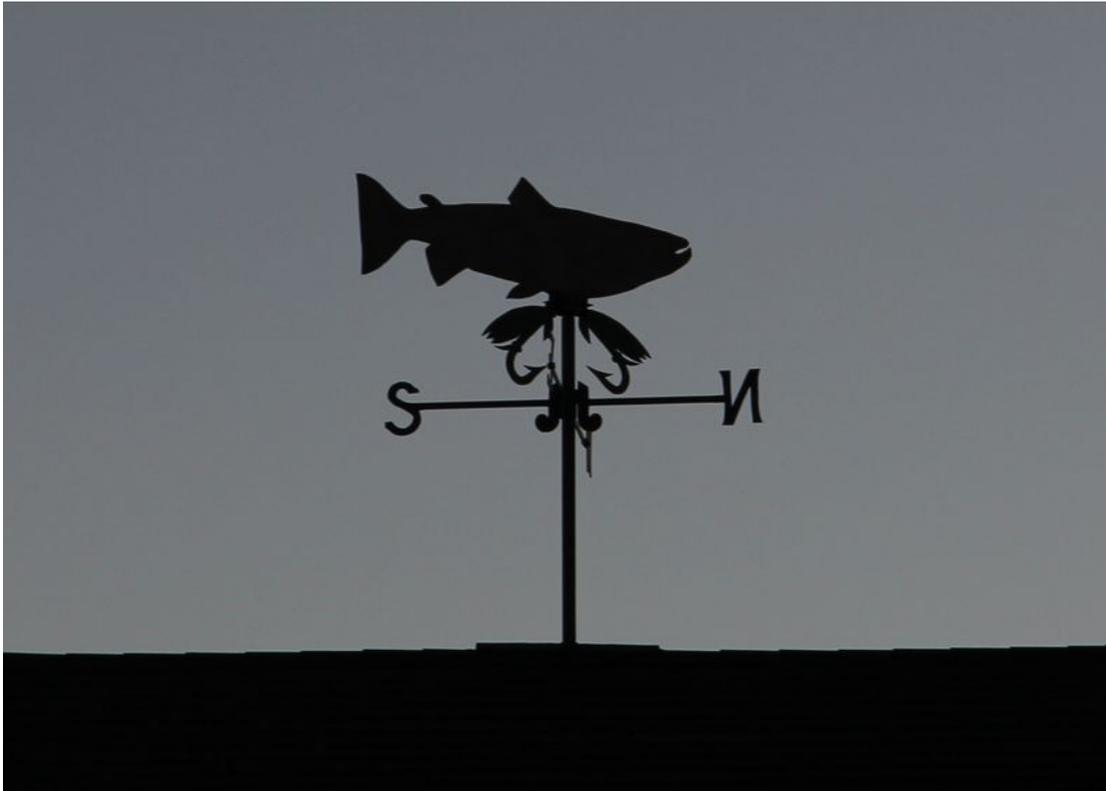
Changes to the Fisheries Act will replace Environment Canada with Health Canada crews who don't have any boats. They will be hitching a ride on the salmon farm crew boats. How do you make an "unannounced" visit, when you ride with the company?



The sea lice in the extreme high-density sited salmon feedlots in New Brunswick became resistant to the in-feed drug, Slice, and so today well-boats are used. I am told these boats prepare a toxic bath of hydrogen peroxide, or Deltamethrin. The federal and provincial governments funded research into Deltamethrin and even though 3 parts per billion in water kills lobster, they gave the salmon farming industry permission to use this drug and then release the chemical directly into the Inner Bay of Fundy. Research reports this chemical dump produces a plume reaching at least 8 km from the site. The toxin is pouring into lobster nurseries.

Technically no one would be allowed to release such a drug into the ocean. Health Canada, however, will be able to approve these lethal drugs, exempting them from the Fisheries Act and so if a salmon farmer kills lobster in the future, the fish farmers cannot be found guilty of anything.





[http://alexandramorton.typepad.com/alexandra\\_morton/2012/10/we-drove-to-st-andrews-in-the-rain-the-yellow-and-orange-foliage-standing-out-brilliantly-in-the-dark-weather-we-passed-t.html](http://alexandramorton.typepad.com/alexandra_morton/2012/10/we-drove-to-st-andrews-in-the-rain-the-yellow-and-orange-foliage-standing-out-brilliantly-in-the-dark-weather-we-passed-t.html)

The Coaster, 18 October 2012

Cleaner Fish: A new tool to mitigate sea lice



A cunner being measured at the Ocean Sciences Centre in Logy Bay. Submitted photo

The connor to the rescue

They say that every creature on the planet has a purpose, that every animal has a reason to be here.

And now, it seems possible that the once lowly connor or cunner that hangs out at any wharf in Newfoundland and Labrador, may play a prominent role in the province's aquaculture industry. It appears that cunners may be used to help control sea lice on cultured salmon.

Danny Boyce is the Facility and Business Manager of the Dr. Joe Brown Research Aquatic Building which is part of Memorial University's Ocean Sciences Centre in Logy Bay.

Boyce said that lice infestations are one of the biggest challenges in salmon aquaculture and it can cost the producers up to \$300 a tonne produced each year in losses and treatments.

Aquaculture companies around the world are seeking alternative methods to control sea lice as lice may build up a resistance to the therapeutants used to control them and these treatments may have possible effects on non-target organisms.

Wrasses, called connors or cunners in Canada, are being used in commercial production cycles in Norway and Scotland as part of an integrated pest management approach and to avoid dependence on chemical lice treatments.

Boyce and his colleagues – John Evely, Denise Tucker and Jennifer Monk – are involved in a project to raise cunners in Newfoundland that may be used to help alleviate sea lice issues in provincial aquaculture projects.

Boyce said, "Up to this point some 30 million cunners have been taken from the wild in Norway for this purpose. When you remove that number of any species from the wild it may have some profound effect on the ecosystem.

"We are completing a project where we are raising cunners from the eggs using local stocks. We're looking at this from the culture end but it remains to be seen if this is a project and investment that the aquaculture companies will be willing to invest in.

"Wrasses or cunners are already being used in salmon aquaculture in Europe and Cooke Aquaculture is testing this idea in some of its projects in New Brunswick.

"The cunner has received attention as the best candidate to serve as a Cleaner Fish for the Canadian Atlantic salmon industry.

However, little is known about its ability in cleaning lice from salmon or its adaptivity to captive culture conditions."

Boyce said that the MUN project is in the very early stages and it takes while to grow a cunner, as the eggs are only about .8 mm in size to start with. It also takes a while to understand the biology and culture conditions that come with a new species.

"It may be a slow process but sea lice are probably going to be with the industry for a long time especially with our warming water temperatures.

"What we're looking at basically is a possible alternative measure to treat sea lice that could be really beneficial to the salmonid industry. These cunners could be user friendly and this may be something the general public would look at and say that this is an alternative to the other treatments being used today."

<http://www.thecoaster.ca/News/2012-10-18/article-3102112/Cleaner-Fish%3A-A-new-tool-to-mitigate-sea-lice/1>

Marlborough Express, 18 October 2012

Nitrogen introduction a major issue – witness

Cathie Bell

The introduction of nitrogen into the Marlborough Sounds through salmon food was one of the biggest, if not the biggest, issue in terms of the application being considered by the Environmental Protection Authority's board of inquiry, the board's planning witness Grant Eccles said yesterday.

Mr Eccles was the last witness to be heard in the board's eight-week hearing of an application by NZ King Salmon to set up nine salmon farms in areas of the Marlborough Sounds where marine farming is prohibited.

He said the introduction of nitrogen into the water through salmon feed, and the subsequent effect of that on the water column and the sea bed was, if not the biggest issue, one of the biggest in the application, he said.

"So in my view, any measures that could be appropriately implemented to control that nitrogen release, monitor its effects, remedy its effects if it is creating a problem should be fully considered by the board."

In cross-examination, Mr Eccles said that standards around the release of salmon food into the water were "fundamental".

"They are really important controls . . . the start of an effects loop, I suppose," Mr Eccles said.

He supported there being measures around this in both the overall plan change as well as the conditions for the management of each proposed farm.

"If this zone is going to be tied to these consents or this process somehow, and not become a publicly available zone to others, then I certainly wouldn't be adverse to duplication of standards and consents," he said.

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/marlborough-express/news/7831789/Nitrogen-introduction-a-major-issue-witness>

Marlborough Express, 18 October 2012

More samples urged

Penny Wardle

The "learning by doing" approach to salmon farming relies on adverse effects being identified through monitoring, says Conservation Department planner Anna Cameron.

Ms Cameron gave evidence on Tuesday at the Environmental Protection Authority hearing in Blenheim to consider the application by New Zealand King Salmon to develop nine new salmon farms in the Marlborough Sounds.

Ms Cameron suggested changes to farming conditions proposed by King Salmon, aimed at protecting the water from the sea surface to the sea floor.

If farm conditions started heading towards non-compliance, King Salmon must step up seabed monitoring from once to three times a year, she said. Thresholds should be set and samples taken beneath farms and further afield, where effects were especially undesirable.

King Salmon lawyer James Gardner-Hopkins asked whether taking and analysing potentially hundreds of samples could be impractical.

DOC marine technical adviser Andrew Baxter advised three samples were needed to see a trend, Ms Cameron said. This sampling was not part of day-to-day farm operation but to help correct deteriorating conditions.

If farms became non-compliant, King Salmon must immediately reduce feed or de-stock then allow sites to fallow, she said. Fish could either be shifted or killed.

Mr Gardner-Hopkins said if fish were killed before they reached harvest weights, processing costs would exceed their value.

"On a terrestrial farm if there was a breach of a discharge standard would you expect a farmer to kill stock early?" he asked.

Ms Cameron recommended setting maximum feed nitrogen levels and recording the ratio of nitrogen taken up by fish and excreted.

Mr Gardner-Hopkins said salmon farmers already had a financial incentive to reduce protein and nitrogen and it might be impossible to measure feed conversion rates on active salmon farms.

Setting nitrogen limits was appropriate because feed was a major source of this pollutant around farms, Ms Cameron said. She understood that measuring feed conversion ratios involved a simple calculation after weighing fish at harvest.

Phytoplankton should be measured and identified from the day farms were established rather than after three years of monitoring, as suggested by King Salmon, Ms Cameron said. This would avoid setting a biased threshold after water conditions were changed by farm operations.

Phytoplankton populations were highly variable, Ms Cameron agreed with Mr Gardner-Hopkins. However, the fact a system was complex did not mean it should be ignored.

Ms Cameron recommended that the Marlborough District Council be required to check that King Salmon plans and reports were consistent with conditions.

"I do not think council should be in a position where the only way of rectifying a problem is prosecution," she said.

The hearing at the Floor Pride Marlborough Civic Theatre in Blenheim is expected to end today after eight weeks.

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/marlborough-express/news/7831787/More-samples-urged>

Nelson Mail, 18 October 2012

NZ King Salmon hearing wraps up

The proposed plan change to enable NZ King Salmon to set up nine new salmon farms in areas of the Marlborough Sounds where marine farming is not allowed should be declined, the Marlborough District Council's lawyer says.

Stephen Quinn told the Environmental Protection Authority's board of inquiry hearing in Blenheim yesterday that the amendments to the application made by King Salmon during the nine weeks of the hearing had not alleviated the council's fundamental opposition in any material respect.

Today was expected to be the last day of the hearing. Opponents of the application gave their closing submissions yesterday, and NZ King Salmon's lawyers were to make closing submissions this afternoon. Four opponents spoke to their submissions yesterday, and nine others submitted theirs in writing.

Mr Quinn said there was "a very real possibility" of similar future applications for plan changes to enable marine farming in the zone in the Sounds where marine farming was not allowed.

"[The application] seeks to prioritise the interests of NZKS ahead of all other users, values, qualities, and physical attributes. It seeks to punch holes in eight areas of CMZ1 where marine farming is currently prohibited. The narrow terms . . . also endeavour to prioritise the interests of NZKS over any other operators and types of marine farming."

He said the application did not pass the hurdle of establishing that NZKS should have priority over all others who used or valued that part of the public coastal environment where this form of commercial exclusive occupation was currently prohibited.

Department of Conservation lawyer Eleanor Jamieson said DOC still had concerns about the three proposed farms in Tory Channel and Port Gore. There was little information available about the water column conditions in those areas, and it was important to get the location of the monitoring sites right as well.

The "potentially enormous gap" between picking up a breach of conditions at a farm and rectifying it using the methods proposed was also a concern, she said.

Environmental Defence Society lawyer Bianca Tree said the organisation opposed the application solely on landscape grounds.

Board of inquiry chairman Judge Gordon Whiting said yesterday the evidence of the seven planning expert witnesses "sent a shiver" down his spine. All of them had said a lot of work needed to be done on proposed conditions of consent for the farms.

"We can't do more work - we've finished," Judge Whiting said. "It should have been done. There appear to be some lacunas [gaps], if you like, which we will have to fill . . . We can't receive any more evidence."

The board is supposed to provide a draft decision by November 16 and a final decision by December 31, but has asked Conservation Minister Kate Wilkinson for an extension, to provide a draft decision by December 19 instead, and its final decision by February 22.

A spokeswoman for Ms Wilkinson said the minister intended to consider the extension request when she returned to New Zealand late next week.

Judge Whiting said he was "extremely concerned" about the proposed conditions of consent, particularly those relating to the monitoring, the water column, benthic effects, and the peer review panel's communication process.

He said the need for conditions was dependent on the board making a decision to approve the application, but without "appropriate" conditions, there was a difficulty.

He was unsure whether the legislation governing boards of inquiry allowed the board to issue draft conditions for parties to address before a final decision was made.

Judge Whiting said it was "just unfortunate" that the planners could not have been more focused on the conditions than they were.

"There is such a disparity there that was quite difficult for us."

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/nelson-mail/news/7832630/NZ-King-Salmon-hearing-wraps-up>

Marlborough Express, 18 October 2012

Role of conditions highlighted

Cathie Bell

Conditions on the operation of salmon farms could be used to plug holes, "but if you keep plugging holes, you've got to ask if the consent should be granted in the first place", Marlborough District Council resource management officer Bruno Brosnan said yesterday.

Mr Brosnan was the council's final witness in the Environmental Protection Authority's board of inquiry hearing into an application by NZ King Salmon to set up nine salmon farms in areas of the Marlborough Sounds where marine farming is prohibited.

The hearing, which has been running for eight weeks, is expected to finish today.

Mr Brosnan is responsible for processing coastal permits and aquaculture resource consents.

He said the adaptive management method proposed by King Salmon was a useful one.

As part of that, he proposed that if there were a compliance breach, a one-step response should be implemented to take the farm back to where it had been compliant.

In practice, that meant reducing the food levels at the non-complying farm to a point where the farm knew it was compliant before so that it could be worked out how the breach occurred. How that was done could be "either destocking, culling, or in severe cases, maybe even fallowing the site", he said.

Mr Brosnan said that, when he first looked at the application from King Salmon, there were 79 conditions associated with the proposed nine farms. He proposed getting rid of ones in areas such as marine mammals or biosecurity, where the council was not the lead agency in that area.

"Conditions can be used to plug holes, but if you keep plugging holes, you've got to ask if the consent should have been granted in the first place."

Asked if whether some proposed conditions, such as the one on biosecurity, covered areas raised by submitters and they may take comfort from there being a condition on that, Mr Brosnan disagreed.

"Conditions shouldn't be there to give someone comfort or placate some point of view. They're there to audit performance standards.

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/marlborough-express/news/7831788/Role-of-conditions-highlighted>

Fisheries Information Service, 18 October 2012



Intesal general manager, Matías Medina, at a recent seminar on salmon farming. (Photo: SalmonChile)

Salmon industry health indicators worsen, according to Intesal



**Thursday, October 18, 2012, 01:50 (GMT + 9)**

The Chilean salmon industry health indicators began to worsen last year, admitted the general manager of the Salmon Technological Institute (Intesal) of the [Association of Chilean Salmon Industry](#) (SalmonChile), Matías Medina.

But he emphatically declared: "If introduced in a historical context, all these indicators are well below pre-ISA virus (infectious salmon anemia), considering that we have the same biomass," reported *Diario Financiero*.

The regions the neighbourhoods generating alert were located are X and XI, where in September the [National Fisheries and Aquaculture Service](#) (Sernapesca) conducted inspections and issued a total of 11 offenses.

"In recent times, starting in November 2011, the worsening of the various health indicators has started," stressed Medina.

However, not in all the neighbourhoods and centres have experienced the same situation: "There are neighbourhoods that have generated alerts in Region XI, but there are also cases in Region X," he continued.

On the other hand, in Region XII indicators are good because "the lessons learnt in other regions have been implemented, but they also have their own challenges, such as logistics," Intesal manager stated.

"When the fish increase, there is more substrate for the development of diseases and parasites, if the charts are analysed, there is no correlative factor. This is so because after ISA a number of measures within the industry were taken, such as self-regulation, by the authority," he explained.

Moreover, Intesal is developing the programme 'Surveillance Epidemiologic System for Chilean Salmon Industry Health and Productive Management Optimization,' supported by InnovaChile of [Production Development Corporation](#) (Corfo).

This programme aims to improve health containment systems, which intend to identify opportunities for the improvement of the new production model by field verifications (audits) and data analysis.

According to Sophie St-Hilaire, in charge of caligus of the programme, "it is necessary to have a wider scope, beyond individual centres and at a specific neighbourhood level, which should work together to make health measures."

For the specialist, it is necessary to emphasize the distance separating the farming centres from the different neighbourhoods.

"There are centres that are closer to neighbouring districts centers than to their own so they had to be included when setting a contingency plan," she concluded, according to *Aqua*.

*By Analia Murias*  
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<http://www.fis.com/fis/worldnews/worldnews.asp?monthyear=10-2012&day=18&id=56205&l=e&country=0&special=&ndb=1&df=0>

Hebrides News, 17 October 2012

Salmon farming expansion threatens fishermen livelihoods

Fishermen on Harris fear their livelihoods will be badly hit by losing access to vital shellfish grounds due to the expansion of salmon farming.

Three new fish farms are planned at important inshore fishing areas on the rugged coast of east Harris.

The sites in Kyles Scalpay, Loch Grosebay and East Loch Tarbert are near existing farms and are also part of five salmon farming developments proposed in the Western Isles

Creelmen are aghast of the "takeover" of their traditional grounds by the Scottish Salmon Company.

They warn that the proliferation of "cramming fish" into cages threatens the environment.

Fears are heightened because of the rapid spread of a serious disease outbreak killing potentially millions of farmed fish.

All sea farms around Harris are affected by a deadly parasite which causes Amoebic Gill Disease (AGD) said to be due to saltier-than-normal sea water.

It has also struck at a new controversial fish farm Plockropool, in the Bays of Harris, which was only stocked recently after bitter opposition from villagers.

Locals are not convinced that disposing vast quantities of hydrogen peroxide, a fish treatment chemical often used as bleach, into sea lochs is harmless.

Creel fisherman Roddy Campbell warned the fish farm expansion threatened both commercial and leisure fishing as well as tourism.

Mr Campbell who also operates a backpackers hostel at Drinnshader in East Harris highlighted: "This year, for the first time ever, we had angling guests coming in with wild fish full of feed pellets.

"This is a direct result of the new farm at Plocropool which is very close to the only sheltered angling grounds we have at the approaches to East Loch Tarbert."

Mr Campbell urges planning authority Western Isles Council to require a study into "fish and human health risks due to wild fish gorging on feed pellets."

He says it is vital the council gets salmon firms to provide evidence the new farms will not harm the environment.

A spokesperson for The Scottish Salmon Company said AGD, which does not affect the surrounding eco-system.

A spokesman for the Scottish Salmon Producers Organisation (SSPO) said the increased production meant major capital investment and new opportunities in the Scottish economy.

He said: "The direct employment provided by members of SSPO has risen from 163 in 2008 to 264 at the end of last year.

"38 new jobs were created in the last year - a 17% rise on the previous year.

"Over the last five years salmon farming companies in the Western Isles have made almost £31 million capital investments; £22.2 million was invested in the Western Isles in the last two years" with wages spent locally.

[http://www.hebrides-news.com/salmon\\_farm\\_fears\\_171012.html](http://www.hebrides-news.com/salmon_farm_fears_171012.html)

Guysborough Journal, 17 October 2012

St. Mary's council not a fan of open-pen aquaculture

By Lois Ann Dort

SHERBROOKE – Open-pen fish farming is not a proposition most people in the District of St. Mary's look forward too; nor do their councillors. At the regular council meeting on Tuesday, October 9 councillors made a motion to write a letter the Guysborough- Sheet Harbour MLA Jim Boudreau requesting a meeting about the probability of fish farming in the district.

“We feel there is more value for us in the recreational sport fisheries than to lose wild Atlantic salmon to open-pen fish farms. The lobster fishery is also a concern for us. They say lobster and open-pen fish farms don't live well together. We want to bring our MLA in to talk about the situation,” Warden David Clark told *The Journal* on Monday.

Clark said that the District of the Municipality of St. Mary's had joined the coalition against open-pen fish farming on the Eastern Shore earlier this year. “There's speculation that the trend may continue further down the shore from where the sites are now. We're not in favour of that,” said Clark.

[http://www.guysboroughjournal.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=88:s-t-marys-council-not-a-fan-of-open-pen-aquaculture&catid=42:front-page-stories](http://www.guysboroughjournal.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=88:s-t-marys-council-not-a-fan-of-open-pen-aquaculture&catid=42:front-page-stories)

Intrafish, 17 October 2012



## CEO: Customers want land-based farmed salmon

Overwhelmingly, Nova Scotia-based fish farmer sees 'extremely high demand' for a product that does not exist...yet.

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 Jeanine Stewart

**Published:** 17 October 2012 03:20 PM

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Sustainable Blue CEO Kirk Havercroft, a Canada-based fish farmer, would choose seabream over salmon on a menu any day.

"It has just enough oil content to give it a really appealing flavor," Havercroft told **IntraFish**. "It is one of my favorite eating fish."

Sustainable Blue farms the whitefish, typically produced in Europe's warmer Mediterranean sea, in land-based recirculating tanks in Nova Scotia, where the company will break ground on a new facility in the next month. But when the project is done, Havercroft plans to switch from his favorite species to farming a species that has sent companies' financial portfolios nosediving this past year -- Atlantic salmon.

"Overwhelmingly, our clients were saying, 'There is one product that is in extremely high demand -- but there is no supply of it whatsoever -- and that is a sustainably produced Atlantic salmon,'" Havercroft said.

The idea that marine-based farmed salmon cannot be sustainable is not new, but it has been challenged by companies such as AquaChile through its Verlasso salmon brand and Grieg Seafood through its Skuna Bay brand. Both products are farmed at sea. In the case of Verlasso, the product **is recognized by companies and scientists** as more sustainable than others for its low feeder fish to fish produced ratio.

Yet some sustainably minded customers are not finding what they want.

"A lot of the clients that we deal with are looking for significant volumes of sustainably produced Atlantic salmon and simply can't find it, so we are excited to have the opportunity to serve that," Havercroft said.

There are other advantages -- Atlantic salmon grows twice as fast as seabream. Once the new facility is finished, the company will go from producing 60 metric tons of seabream a year to producing 350 metric tons of Atlantic salmon a year.

According to company estimates, the operation will become profitable at a level of 250 metric tons for either sea bream or salmon production, and profit margins would increase markedly at a level of 1,000 metric tons.

"A land based facility is no different than any other business in that it has to be scaled correctly to be profitable," Havercroft said. "The more effective the technology, the lower the production point where profitability occurs. With (our) technology, profitability occurs at relatively low levels..."

#### **Sustainability-conscious network at the ready**

"We tend to align with distributors that have a sustainability program," Havercroft said.

The company sells 60 percent of its product volume to specialist brokers and distributors and 40 percent to restaurants. Customers include Sysco Foods, which gets 20 percent of the product volume, and Albion Fisheries, which gets 40 percent.

These companies were a good fit, and the contracts were not hard to get due to the company's land-based farming methods.

Its seabream sells in the \$20 (€15) range at restaurants. Havercroft hopes to reintroduce the species after the salmon farming venture gets off the ground.

Ultimately, Havercroft feels he is accomplishing his goals.

"Our objective with this farm was not to create a huge impact with this fish on production; our objective here was to show that land-based farming was commercially viable, and that's what we've done with this farm," Havercroft said.

<http://www.intrafish.com/global/news/article1357464.ece>

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Intrafish, 17 October 2012

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# Can Norway limit the size of a company's salmon farming operations?

This summer, Marine Harvest was reassured by an EU watchdog that Norwegian authorities cannot limit ownership of production licenses to 25% -- but authorities refuse to comply.

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 Bent-Are Jensen

**Published:** 17 October 2012 03:17 PM

**Updated:** 17 October 2012 02:13 PM

This summer, Marine Harvest received endorsement from the European Free Trade Agreement Surveillance Authority (EFTASA) that **Norwegian authorities cannot limit a company's percentage of the total number of ownership of production licenses to 25 percent** -- but Norwegian authorities are refusing to budge.

In a reply to EFTASA, the Norwegian Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs wrote: "There is not a shadow of doubt that farmed salmon and trout fall outside the products covered by the European Economic Area (EEA) agreement."

Norwegian fisheries and agriculture are not part of the EU's fisheries and agriculture arrangement and organization. Fisheries and agriculture are regulated by a separate supplement to the agreement and by the World Trade Organization's (WTO) regulations on free trade.

The Norwegian authorities refer the European Commission applied WTO regulations, and not the EEA agreement, in dumping allegations against Norway.

## Could this matter end up before the EFTA Court?

Trond S. Paulsen, lawyer at a legal firm with the same name, has assisted the Norwegian salmon industry authorities in dumping cases with the EU for the past 20 years -- and now replies diplomatically.

"If the EFTASA sticks to its guns and the parties don't reach an agreement through dialogue, I wouldn't be surprised if the Norwegian state takes the matter to the EFTA court," Paulsen told **IntraFish**.

On average, the EFTA court considers eight to 10 cases per year. The latest information is EFTASA maintains Norway's support to the coastal passenger and cargo shipping service (Hurtigruten) not in accordance with the EEA agreement.

Several years ago Norway and the EFTASA discussed Norwegian limitations on the number of foreign crew in its fishing fleet. The matter was resolved through compromise.

In 1994 and 1995 Scotland accused Norway of subsidizing salmon farming. The EFTASA rejected the complaint, as fisheries were not part of the EEA agreement. But the Scots followed up and appealed the matter before the EFTA court -- which sent the matter back to the EFTASA requesting better grounds.

Scotland did not succeed because EFTASA provided the court with a satisfactory answer in the second round.

<http://www.intrafish.com/global/news/article1357481.ece>

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Nature, 17 October 2012

Politics holds back animal engineers

Funds and approvals lag for transgenic livestock in US.

- [Amy Maxmen](#)



AquaBounty salmon (back) have an added growth-hormone gene that sees them grow to market size in about half the time as unmodified salmon.

When she saw the trailer for the documentary *Genetic Roulette*, Alison Van Eenennaam wanted to laugh, then cry. The film touts the risks of genetically engineered (GE) organisms, calling them “the most dangerous thing facing human beings in our generation”. For Van Eenennaam, a geneticist at the University of California, Davis, the scientifically unfounded assertions — that transgenic foods are responsible for increased incidence of autism, Alzheimer’s disease and type 2 diabetes in the United States — cannot be taken seriously. But the film reflects attitudes that have thwarted Van Eenennaam’s research into the genetic modification of animals to reduce food costs and improve quality.

“Twenty years ago, the technology was our hurdle,” says Mark Westhusin, who works on GE animals at Texas A&M University in College Station. “Now the technology is great and the sky is the limit,” he says, “but good luck getting money for GE animals.”

Inquiries by *Nature* reveal that fewer than 0.1% of research grants from the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) have gone to work on GE food animals since 1999, in part because of a poor public image. In one case, James Murray, another geneticist at the University of California, Davis, was told in 2003 that the USDA had rejected his proposal to develop a goat that produces milk rich in human lysozymes — enzymes that fight diarrhoeal disease — because the agency felt that “the general public would not accept such animals”.

Van Eenennaam once hoped to engineer a cow that produced milk rich in omega-3 fats, but the USDA rejected her proposals, and she ended the project because of a lack of funding. The agency now funds her work on conventional breeding techniques to create dairy cows without horns, sparing farmers the danger and expense of removing them. Van Eenennaam says that she might do better by disrupting the genes that lead to horns, but there is no money for that. “I’ve got plenty of funding now, but the project is completely inefficient compared to genetic engineering,” she says.

“The technology is great and the sky is the limit, but good luck getting money.”

The USDA supports research to improve livestock and agriculture, but a spokesperson says that it has not considered work on GE animals to be the best use of its funding. The US National Institutes of Health (NIH) occasionally supports research on transgenic pigs that model human diseases, but rarely funds proposals to produce drugs or vaccines in the milk of transgenic livestock. An NIH spokesperson says that decisions are based on many factors, including the needs of the research community.

For GE animals that have been developed despite these hurdles, market approval has stalled. On 27 September, Van Eenennaam was a panellist at a meeting in Washington DC, where advocates of GE animal research aired their frustrations with the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), which has yet to issue a decision on any GE food animal submitted for approval (see [‘Off the table’](#)). A fast-growing salmon developed by AquaBounty in Maynard, Massachusetts, has been under review since 1995; in 2010, an FDA scientific advisory panel evaluated 21 years of data on the fish and deemed it safe for the environment and human consumption (see [Nature 467, 259; 2010](#)), yet the agency has still not announced a final decision. The FDA will not comment on its process.

Table

Off the table

A brief history of some of the genetically engineered food animals submitted to the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for review. No such animal has yet been approved.

<b>Animal</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Created</b>	<b>History</b>
Salmon	Grows to market size faster than conventional salmon	1989 (Massachusetts)	1995 FDA receives application 2008 Fish farm moved to Panama 2010 Cleared by FDA scientific advisory panel
Pig	Produces more milk to nurse healthier young	1993 (Illinois)	1999 FDA receives application 2003 Funding denied by USDA
Goat	Milk has human lysozymes to treat diarrhoeal disease	1999 (California)	2008 FDA receives application 2011 Research moved to Brazil
Pig	Efficiently digests plant phosphorus, reducing pollution	1999 (Ontario, Canada)	2007 FDA receives application 2012 Pigs killed owing to lack of commercial interest
Cow, sheep, goat, pig	Increased muscle mass without reduced fertility	2010 (Texas)	2009 FDA receives application

[More](#)

“AquaBounty has done everything they are legally required to do, and, yes or no, now we just want an official word from the FDA,” says Van Eenennaam, who was on the advisory panel.

“We will never have investment in this field if there is no way to move it forward.” She was one of 56 biotechnology advocates who wrote to US President Barack Obama on 15 September, asking why there has been no update (see [Letter to Obama](#)).

The White House has not responded, and AquaBounty’s salmon is swimming against the tide of politics. Legislation introduced last year in the US House of Representatives and the Senate would ban the FDA from approving it. The protest in Congress comes mainly from salmon-exporting states such as Alaska, Washington and Oregon, amid fears that an inexpensive new source of salmon would undermine the industry. Politicians also reference unforeseen dangers from GE foodstuffs.

The FDA evaluates animals as strictly as it does drugs. In the 17 years that the salmon has been under review, AquaBounty has spent more than US\$60 million on, for example, showing that its allergenic potential is no greater than that of Atlantic fish. To ensure that the mainly sterile GE salmon can’t mate with native species, the company keeps them in multiwalled tanks on a mountain in Panama. If the fish were to be sold commercially, they would be reared similarly isolated from the ocean.

The prospects for research are better outside the United States. Last year, Murray moved his goat project to Brazil, where the government funds his research; the childhood diarrhoea that the goats’ milk is intended to treat is a serious problem in the north of the country. And China invested nearly \$800 million in transgenic pigs, cattle, sheep and crops between 2008 and 2012, says Ning Li, director of the State Key Laboratories for AgroBiotechnology in Beijing. More than 20 GE food animals are in development in China, he says, including a fast-growing carp and cows that produce milk with reduced allergenic potential. However, a Chinese researcher who asked to remain anonymous because he did not have permission to speak to the press predicts that approval for the animals will lag because the government has not determined how to ensure that the products are safe.

Even in the United Kingdom, where public opposition to GE plants and animals has been fierce, researchers seem to be better off than their US counterparts. The Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) supports work on GE food animals, including chickens engineered to be resistant to the bird-flu virus. A BBSRC spokesperson told *Nature*: “We consider it important to fund research that provides a range of technological options that can be applied to the challenges that we face as a society.”

<http://www.nature.com/news/politics-holds-back-animal-engineers-1.11596>

The Common Sense Canadian, 17 October 2012

Norwegian Salmon Farming Giant Appeals Loss in Defamation Case Against Activist Don Staniford

**[Read this story from CBC.ca](#) on the decision by Mainstream Canada - BC-based subsidiary of Norwegian Government-owned Cermaq - to appeal anti-salmon farming activist Don Staniford's recent victory over the defamation suit they brought against him at the BC Supreme Court. (Oct. 16, 2012)**

The defamation case between a British Columbia salmon-farming company and an outspoken critic appears to be far from over.

Mainstream Canada said Monday that it would [appeal a September decision](#) by a B.C. Supreme Court justice to dismiss a defamation case against Don Staniford, but only hours later the British-born activist responded, saying he'd fight the appeal.

At issue is a 2011 Global Alliance Against Industrial Aquaculture campaign that included images of cigarette-like packages and statements such as "Salmon Farming Kills Like Smoking."

Justice Elaine Adair dismissed the case in September in favour of Staniford's defence of fair comment, saying while his statements were defamatory and he was motivated by malice, the activist honestly believed in what he was saying and animosity wasn't his dominant purpose.

"While it is disappointing that she ruled against us on a technical legal issue, we will pursue this vigorously in the court of appeal," said David Wotherspoon, the company's lawyer in a statement.

The company also said that Adair's decision, if it stands, could compromise healthy debate on matters of public policy, and those debates should be based on fact, and critics should be accountable for their comments.

"Mainstream Canada and their parent company Cermaq have once again ignored the first rule of PR: when in a hole stop digging," said Staniford, in response to Mainstream's announcement Monday night.

"Cermaq's knee-jerk reaction to appeal is yet another case of this multi-million dollar company shooting itself in the foot. Common sense is clearly not a currency this Norwegian-owned multinational is used to dealing in."

Read more: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/story/2012/10/16/bc-salmon-farm-defamation.html>

<http://thecanadian.org/hot-links/item/1769-norwegian-salmon-farming-giant-appeals-loss-in-defamation-case-against-activist-don-staniford>

Read also via The Common Sense Canadian:

[Rafe Mair's Landmark Free Speech Case Credited in Salmon Activist Staniford's Victory](#)

[Salmon Activist Don Staniford Wins Big Victory in Defamation Case Over Norwegian Aquaculture Giant](#)

[Salmon Activist Don Staniford Has Left the Country...Continues Battle in Norway](#)

[Bad Boy Salmon Activists Teaming Up in Norway](#)

[Salmon Activist Draws Outpouring of Public Cash for Legal Battle](#)

The Courier-Islander, 17 October 2012

### Mainstream to appeal decision

Mainstream Canada will file an appeal of a Supreme Court of BC decision in its defamation claim against anti-salmon farming activist Don Staniford.

Justice Elaine Adair dismissed the case in September, saying while Staniford's statements were defamatory and he was motivated by malice, the activist honestly believed in what he was saying and animosity wasn't his dominant purpose. Mainstream lost the previous case when the judge agreed with the company's claim that Staniford had defamed it, but ruled that he had done so under "fair comment."

The trial, which ran from January 16 to February 10 2012, was for what the company called "a prolonged, malicious, and unfounded attack on Mainstream Canada and its employees."

Mainstream Canada said in a release Monday announcing the appeal that Adair's decision, if it stands, could compromise healthy debate on matters of public policy

The British-born Staniford was removed from Canada this past February for overstaying a visitor's permit, but says he will return next year for a lecture tour with the leader of the Green Warriors of Europe, an environmental organization. And in response to the news of the appeal, Staniford, in a written response, was apparently again standing in the middle of the street waiting for the clock to strike 12.

"Mainstream Canada has once again ignored the first rule of PR: when in a hole stop digging," he wrote. "Their kneejerk reaction to appeal is a case of shooting themselves in the foot. Common sense is clearly not a currency this Norwegian-owned multi-national is used to dealing in.

"The ugly truth is that Norwegian-owned salmon farming kills all around the world. No amount of saber-rattling, intimidation and bullying by this Norwegian government-owned corporation will alter the fact that salmon farming kills sea lions, spreads infectious diseases and even results in the death of their own workers."

According to a company press release the judge in the case concluded that Mainstream was a responsible corporate citizen, ruling that "they are conscious of the need to operate the business in a manner consistent with producing a product that is safe to consume and contributes to a healthy and nutritious diet."

The company release said the judge found that the activist's comments were defamatory and actuated by express malice toward Mainstream.

She described the language in his publications as "extreme, inflammatory, sensationalized, extravagant and violent."

"We are pleased that the judge acknowledged the good work by Mainstream and that she found that the activist's comments were defamatory," David Wotherspoon. "While it is

disappointing that she ruled against us on a technical legal issue, we will pursue this vigorously in the court of appeal."

<http://www.canada.com/Mainstream+appeal+decision/7401928/story.html>

See also: "Do you think Mainstream is doing the right thing in appealing its loss in court against anti-fish farm activist Don Staniford? 53% said yes":

<http://www.canada.com/early+present+from/7401929/story.html>

Intrafish, 17 October 2012



Kurt Oddekalv er sjefen til Don Staniford. Bildet viser en Oddekalv-aksjon mot Tombre Fiskeanlegg i fjor. (Foto: Miljøvernforbundet)

## Oddekalv: Mainstream bærer ved til bålet

Mainstream Canada har anket dommen som nettopp frifant Don Staniford.

Han er én av laksenæringas argeste motstandere.

I slutten av september ble aktivisten funnet skyldig i injurier mot lakseprodusenten. Men dommeren avviste samtidig saken fordi hun fant den innenfor ytringsfrihetens rammer.

- Don er min mann; han er én av mine ansatte. Vi er en del av kampanjen han fører. Vi er glad for at Mainstream anker. Det gir en fin akselerasjonseffekt. Vi får nå anledning til å sette søkelys på flere skjevheter innen lakseoppdrett, sier Kurt Oddekalv til IntraFish.

Han leder Norges Miljøvernforbund som har hovedkontor i Bergen.

- Dette var ikke lurt av Mainstream. De bærer ved til eget bål, legger Oddekalv til.

Mainstream mener derimot at dommen, hvis den får stå uten anke, har potensial i seg til å skade sunn offentlig debatt om saker av offentlig interesse.

- Mens en slik debatt bør oppmuntres, bør den samtidig være basert på fakta, og kritikere bør holdes ansvarlig for hva de uttaler i offentlighet, sier Mainstreams advokat, David Wotherspoon, i en pressemelding som er lagt ut på selskapets kanadiske nettside.

Det var i fjor at Cermaqs datterselskap Mainstream Canada anmeldte Staniford. Rettssaken gikk fra 16.januar til 10.februar i år.

Selskapet mener påstander han offentlig har kommet med mot lakseoppdrett, er usanne, grove og injurierende. Staniford mener blant annet at det å spise oppdrettslaks er sammenliknbart med skadene man pådrar seg med å røyke tobakk.

HER finner du lenke til Mainstream Canada.

<http://www.mainstreamcanada.com/mainstream-canada-appeals-defamation-ruling>

<http://www.intrafish.no/norsk/nyheter/article1357448.ece>

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

Translate via Google includes:

Oddekalv: Mainstream fuel the fire

Mainstream Canada has appealed that just acquitted Don Staniford.

He is one of the salmon industry's staunchest opponents.

In late September, the activist found guilty of libel against salmon producer. But the judge dismissed the case because while she found the within the limits of freedom of expression.

- Don is my husband, he's one of my employees. We are part of the campaign he leads. We are glad that Mainstream anchor. It gives a good acceleration effect. We now have the opportunity to put the spotlight on several distortions in salmon farming, says Kurt Oddekalv to IntraFish.

He leads the Green Warriors, headquartered in Bergen.

- This was not deceived by the Mainstream. They carry on to own bonfire, put Oddekalv to.

Read more via "[Norsk oppdrettsgigant tar lakseaktivist til retten igjen](#)" (Aftenposten, 16 October)

The Fish Site, 17 October 2012

World leading fish farm facility

SCOTLAND, UK - A new 'world class' facility being built at a fish farm in Lochailort is expected to be finished next year.

The Environment Minister, Paul Wheelhouse, visited the Marine Harvest site to see the progress on the new smolt hatchery. Once completed THE development will be one of the biggest facilities of its kind in the world.

Mr Wheelhouse also took the opportunity to meet with representatives from the China National Cereals, Oils and Foodstuffs Corporation who were visiting Marine Harvest. COFCO are one of China's biggest food manufacturers, processors and trading companies.

Mr Wheelhouse said: "Marine Harvest operate to high environmental standards and is committed to growing sustainably in Scotland, therefore I'm pleased they are demonstrating this commitment through plans for a world class facility in Lochailort.

"The aquaculture industry makes an important economic contribution, particularly in remote communities such as the Fort William area, bringing investment and jobs to rural Scotland. Indeed, Marine Harvest employed 367 people in Scotland last year.

"Businesses like Marine Harvest deliver high quality seafood products that are highly sought after around the world. New markets are opening up, particularly in the Far East, as demonstrated by this visit from a Chinese delegation.

"I want fish farming to have a long-term future in Scotland, with companies continuing to invest. That's one of the reasons for the introduction of the Aquaculture and Fisheries Bill. The Bill will support the aquaculture industry's ambitions for sustainable growth, with due regard to the marine environment."

<http://www.thefishsite.com/fishnews/18541/world-leading-fish-farm-facility>

Marlborough Express, 17 October 2012

Council process 'too slow'

Penny Wardle

New Zealand King Salmon could not wait for the Marlborough District Council to update its plans before applying for new farming space, lawyer Derek Nolan said in Blenheim yesterday.

King Salmon has applied to the Environmental Protection Authority for a private plan change and resource consents to develop nine new farms in the Marlborough Sounds. The board of inquiry hearing the application was due to make a final decision by December 31, but last week applied to extend its deadline by three months.

Council environmental policy manager Pere Hawes yesterday suggested that King Salmon could have worked with the council toward getting new areas for fish-farming through the plan renewal process.

Mr Nolan, who represents King Salmon, said this process would be too slow. It could be 2017 before updated plans became operative and the company could apply for space in areas where aquaculture was a limited discretionary activity. If anyone appealed, there could be another year to 18 months to wait.

"That's the alternative process facing anyone that wants space."

Mr Hawes said the council would release draft new resource management plans by the end of July next year and notify them by September, before local body elections.

Mr Nolan said King Salmon environmental compliance manager Mark Gillard gave the council feedback on draft Marlborough Regional Policy Statement aquaculture provisions in November 2011 but had heard nothing since.

Mr Hawes said a marine focus group that was helping redraft aquaculture provisions stalled when King Salmon made its application. Progressing a parallel set of planning provisions would be difficult.

The prohibition on aquaculture was an efficient and effective way of prioritising cultural, recreational, natural character landscape and other values over marine farming so would probably remain after the plan review, Mr Hawes said.

Since King Salmon had made its application, two similar requests had been made to the council, Mr Hawes said. One party wanted to know about opportunities throughout the Sounds for marine farming and the other asked about altering zoning in Port Gore and two bays to the west.

Questioned by commissioner Edward Ellison, Mr Hawes said the difference of opinion between the Te Atiawa iwi authority and iwi whanau and individuals over the King Salmon application was a difficult issue for the board. The only guidance he could give was that the council regarded Te Atiawa generally as kaitiaki (caretakers) versus the iwi authority.

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/marlborough-express/news/7826189/Council-process-too-slow>

Marlborough Express, 17 October 2012

Proposed farm moved, but concerns remain

Penny Wardle

New Zealand King Salmon has shifted a proposed farm so it is not visible from the Halstead family bach on Arapawa Island in Queen Charlotte Sound.

Resource management consultant Steve Wilkes yesterday agreed that King Salmon had moved its proposed Kaitapeha farm and taken out a net pen so the structures could not be seen from the Halsteads' bach or jetty. However, his clients were worried that this might lead to King Salmon or another party applying to expand into the area left unoccupied.

The Halsteads had spent a lot of money fighting the King Salmon application and did not want to go through the process again, he said.

King Salmon lawyer James Gardner-Hopkins said the only way to prevent this was to create a prohibited zone around the farm.

However, this meant that to temporarily moor a vessel at Kaitapeha, the company would need to apply for a non-complying activity permit. One solution could be to ask the Halsteads for one-off permission.

The Halsteads bought their property in Kaitapeha Bay in 2007 after being assured by Marlborough District Council planners that it was in a zone where marine farms could not be developed, Mr Wilkes said.

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/marlborough-express/news/7826836/Proposed-farm-moved-but-concerns-remain>

Business in Vancouver, 17 October 2012

Vancouver Island First Nations sign agreement with fish farm



By Nelson Bennett

The Mowachaht and Muchalaht First Nations on the west coast of Vancouver Island have signed an economic cooperation agreement with Grieg Seafood BC Ltd., a Norwegian aquaculture company.

The agreement, signed by the company and Mowachaht and Muchalaht Council of Chiefs, provides for training and economic opportunities for First Nations as well as wild salmon enhancement initiatives.

"The creation of the economic opportunity fund from this agreement will assist our community to implement our five-year economic plan," Mowachaht Chief Mike Maquinna said.

"Our nation's priority, however, has always been good environmental stewardship, and this agreement ensures ongoing assessment of Grieg's good practices through the establishment of an information sharing commitment."

Grieg Seafood has salmon farms in Esperanza Inlet and Nootka Sound on the west coast of Vancouver Island, as well as on the east coast of Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast. "We look forward to working with Grieg to identify potential contract services required at their operations in our Hahoulthee, our traditional territory, and to the jobs that will result," said Muchalaht Chief Norman George.

The agreement provides members of the Mowachaht and Muchalaht bands training in aquaculture designed to lead to employment.

It also provides for wild salmon enhancement and habitat rehabilitation projects within the two First Nations' territories.

[nbennett@biv.com](mailto:nbennett@biv.com)

<http://gvweb.gl.atl.publicus.com/article/20121017/BIV0104/121019936/0/BIV>

World Fishing & Aquaculture, 16 October 2012

Salmon farm licence consultation begins

The public consultation period has begun in the licence application process for a deep sea fish farm in outer Galway Bay.

The period will run for eight weeks and members of the public can make observations or comments to Simon Coveney, Ireland's minister for Agriculture, Marine and Natural Resources. The closing date for submissions is midnight on 12 December 2012.

The licence application for the deep sea salmon farm is to produce 15,000 tonnes of organic certified salmon. It is envisaged that, should the application be successful, this output will be carefully and incrementally built up over a six year period, bringing with it over 500 new jobs. These jobs would be created both directly (350) and indirectly (150) creating a €4.5 million annual wages flow, mainly in the vicinity of the proposed farm.

BIM would retain the licence as an asset for the State and seek a suitable commercial operator to manage the efficient running of the salmon farm. This approach will allow BIM to apply additional standards to the running of the farm, to maximise returns to the local coastal

economy in accordance with our mission to develop the Irish seafood industry and sustain coastal communities.

BIM's CEO, Jason Whooley, reiterated the Seafood Development Agency's commitment to full and transparent communications throughout the process and welcomed the beginning of the public consultation phase. He said, "BIM have a vital role to play in the coming eight weeks to ensure that members of the public are given the opportunity to inform themselves about the proposed development. The level of scientific research that has gone into identifying these potentially suitable locations in outer Galway Bay for deep sea fish farming is unprecedented, bringing together research and modelling from some of the State's most eminent marine scientists. We are confident that the very carefully chosen locations, matched with the rigorous monitoring that must accompany any salmon farm in Ireland will enable the proposed development to run successfully and produce premium organic salmon, something that Ireland is world renowned for."

All of the application information, including the full Environmental Impact Statement, drawings and artists impressions of the proposed development as well as Irish and English versions of a non-technical summary are available [here](#).

<http://www.worldfishing.net/news101/salmon-farm-licence-consultation-begins>

Science Alert, 16 October 2012

Offshore farms grow bigger tuna



This was the world's first commercial-scale trial of offshore fish development, and it revealed that tuna farmed in deep, turbulent waters gained weight twice as fast as fish reared closer in. Image: Aleynikov/iStockphoto

Port Lincoln tuna are bigger, healthier and happier when they are kilometres offshore, according to a study by University of Tasmania researchers.

Tuna are normally farmed near the shore, but a study published in the international journal *PLoS ONE* found that southern bluefin tuna thrive when they're raised further out to sea.

The researchers collaborated on the world's first commercial-scale trial of offshore fish development, finding that tuna farmed in deep, turbulent waters gained weight twice as fast as fish reared closer in. They also had better survival rates and superior health.

Lead researcher Dr Nicole Kirchhoff said the research was the first study to show it was possible to produce fish offshore on a commercial scale. "Our results indicate a promising economic future for offshore development," Nicole said.

"The fish had fewer parasites and they were in overall better condition than fish maintained near the shore. As previous CSIRO research demonstrates, happy and healthy animals not only taste better, but are also better for you."

The waters at the study site were twice as deep as traditional near-shore farming zones, with stronger currents, winds and waves.

Researchers monitored and sampled tuna reared offshore during a full five-month commercial season. The study included 15 measurements of health, stress and condition.

Nicole said there had been worldwide interest in the economic development of offshore waters for decades, but environmental and economic uncertainty prevented commercial expansion into the deeper ocean.

"We've found that farming further from shore actually has benefits beyond fish welfare and commercial success," she said.

"Globally, moving aquaculture operations offshore may reduce interactions with urban populations and inshore environmental concerns."

Moving aquaculture offshore might also be necessary in the future with the anticipated effects of climate change.

Further research and development is needed before large-scale offshore commercial development begins.

Dr Nicole Kirchhoff is one of 12 early career scientists unveiling their research to the public for the first time as part of Fresh Science, a national program sponsored by the Australian Government.

Nicole's *PLoS ONE* [paper](#) is online.

<http://www.sciencealert.com.au/news/20121610-23798.html>

Indigenous Peoples Issues & Resources, 16 October 2012

British Columbia: Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations Opposes DFO Approval Of Mainstream Canada's Plover Point Fish Farm

The Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations is appalled to learn that on OCTOBER 9th, Department of Fisheries and Oceans issued a new aquaculture license to Mainstream Canada for an open net-pen salmon farm located in Fortune Channel near Plover Point. The new site will have negative impacts to our Wah-Na-Jus/Hilth-Hoo-iss (Meares Island) Tribal Park. In 1984, our Tla-o-qui-aht Hawiith (Hereditary chiefs) declared total preservation of Wah-Nah-Jus/Hilth-Hoo-iss Island based on title and survival of Indigenous way of life by protecting the ancient old growth with an intact ecosystem that is connected to the coastal waters. Our Tribal Parks Declaration clearly states that our seafood, shellfish, salmon streams, herring spawning areas and medical plants must be preserved for future generations.

“Fish disease outbreaks and pollution could devastate our already stressed salmon runs and shell fish sites near the Plover Point site, and put further constraints on our Tla-o-qui-aht strategic fishery planning. The Tla-o-qui-aht leadership has written several letters and voiced our opposition to Mainstream Canada, Ahousaht First Nations, DFO, Transport Canada, and BC, and our title and rights to the coastal waters have been clearly ignored. We will not allow governments and industry to run roughshod over our rights to clean water and sustainable fisheries. We are investigating legal options and will not rule out direct actions to stop Mainstream Canada’s Plover Point fish farm.” - Terry Dorward, Tla-o-qui-aht Elected Councilor.

*Source: Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations*

[http://indigenouspeoplesissues.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=16501:british-columbia-tla-o-qui-aht-first-nations-opposes-dfo-approval-of-mainstream-canada-s-plover-point-fish-farm&catid=22:north-america-indigenous-peoples&Itemid=55](http://indigenouspeoplesissues.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16501:british-columbia-tla-o-qui-aht-first-nations-opposes-dfo-approval-of-mainstream-canada-s-plover-point-fish-farm&catid=22:north-america-indigenous-peoples&Itemid=55)

Aftenposten, 16 October 2012



Don Staniford jublet da han ble frifunnet av en domstol i Canada for injuriersøksmål i september. Men nå må han belage seg på en ny runde i retten.

FOTO: Norges Miljøvernforbund.

## Norsk oppdrettsgigant tar lakseaktivist til retten igjen

Norskeide Mainstream Canada anker frifinnelsen av lakseaktivist Don Staniford i injuriersaken som var anlagt mot ham i British Columbia i Canada. Nå tar briten oppdrettskrigen til Norge sammen med Kurt Oddekalv.

Arbeid 24 personer anbefaler dette. Bli den første blant vennene.

På forsiden akkurat nå

Norsk oppdrettsgigant tar lakseaktivist til retten igjen

Norskeide Mainstream Canada anker frifinnelsen av lakseaktivist Don Staniford i injuriersaken som var anlagt mot ham i British Columbia i Canada. Nå tar briten oppdrettskrigen til Norge sammen med Kurt Oddekalv.

[Jan Gunnar Furuly](#)

I september ble Staniford fra Den globale alliansen mot oppdrettsnæringen frifunnet for injurierer i [The Supreme Court of British Columbia](#)<sup>1</sup>.

Mainstream Canada, som er datterselskap av den halvstatlige norske oppdrettskjempen Cermaq, hadde gått til sak mot den britiske aktivisten på grunnlag av hans langvarige kampanje mot norsk oppdrettsnæring på vestkysten av Canada.

Blant annet reagerte selskapet på bruk av slagord som "Norsk oppdrettslaks dreper", "Lakseoppdrett er gift" og sammenligninger mellom oppdrettslaks og kreft.



Her er deler av Don Stanifords kampanje mot oppdrettsnæringen.

**FOTO:** [www.gaaia.org](http://www.gaaia.org)

-Graver et dypere hull

-Mainstream Canadas anke er det samme som å grave enda dypere i det hullet norsk oppdrettsnæring allerede befinner seg i, sier Staniford på telefon fra Spania.

**-Dommeren i saken karakteriserte deg i dommen som en fordomsfull og overdrivende aktivist, som overhodet ikke holder seg til fakta og som er ute av stand til å møte motforestillinger. Frykter du utfallet av en ny sak?**

-Nei, det er selvsagt stressende å møte en så stor bølge i retten igjen, men jeg vet at jeg har sannheten med på min side. Oppdrettsnæringen er en ikke-bærekraftig dinosaurindustri på vei ut, og det vil komme frem i den nye rettssaken, svarer han. Staniford omtaler sin egen kamp som en batalje mellom David og Goliat.

Frykter usunt debattmiljø

I en [pressemelding](#)<sup>2</sup> skriver Mainstream Canada at de går til anke fordi de frykter at det vil skape et usunt miljø for offentlig debatt dersom frifinnelsen av Staniford blir stående.

"Offentlig debatt må alltid oppmuntres, men den bør være basert på fakta, og kritikere bør holdes ansvarlige for sine offentlige kommentarer", skriver selskapet.

Dommen et karakterdrap

I en lederartikkel i [Norsk Fiskerinæring](#)<sup>3</sup> raljeres det kraftig over Stanifords aktivitet som aktivist.

"Opp gjennom årene har vi lest endel dommer. Men vi har aldri vært i nærheten av å lese et så brutalt karakterdrap som det dommer Justice Adair gjør av Don Staniford", skriver redaktør Thorvald Tande jr.

Inspirert av Monty Python

Canadiske [Daily News](#)<sup>4</sup> beskrev på sin side Stanifords stil som aktivist som en kryssning av Monty Python og Darth Vader, like etter at dommen falt i september.

-Det er ingen tvil om at mange av plakatene og slagordene jeg har laget i min kampanje mot norsk oppdrettslaks er inspirert av Monty Python. Dette er satire, men det virker det ikke som at oppdrettsindustrien har skjønt, sier Liverpool-mannen selv overfor Aftenposten.no.

Staniford ble deportert fra Canada i mars i år etter at han ikke lenger hadde oppholdstillatelse i landet. Kort tid etter etablerte han seg i Bergen som medarbeider for Kurt Oddekalv i Norges Miljøvernforbund.

Tar laksekrigen til Norge

De to erklærer nå at de i fellesskap vil fortsette laksekrigen fra norsk territorium.

-Vi planlegger demonstrasjoner og markeringer sammen med blant andre representanter for urbefolkningen i Canada før og under den store fiskeoppdrettsmessen i Bergen i mars neste år. Deretter kommer jeg og Kurt til å reise til British Columbia for å snakke om hvilken trussel norsk oppdrettslaks utgjør for villaksen på den nordamerikanske vestkysten. 90 prosent av oppdrettsvirksomheten i British Columbia kontrolleres av de store, norskeide selskapene Marine Harvest, Grieg Seafood og Cermaq, sier Staniford.



Den britiske lakseaktivisten Don Staniford har nå forlatt Canada, og satser på å ta laksekrigen til norsk hjemmebane sammen med Kurt Oddekalv i Norges Miljøvernforbund.

**FOTO:** Norges Miljøvernforbund.

Oddekalv har de siste dagene kjempet, forgjeves, mot den storstilte rotenonbehandlingen i Vefsnvassdraget i Nordland.

-Det er litt synd at Don igjen skal tvinges i retten, men for fokuset på laksesaken som vi begge brenner slik for, er dette positivt, sier han.

**-Når dere nå slår dere sammen her i Norge, frykter du lignende injuriersøksmål fra oppdrettsnæringen her i landet?**

-Nei, overhodet ikke. Ytringsfriheten står utrolig sterkt her til lands, svarer Oddekalv

<http://www.aftenposten.no/nyheter/Norsk-oppdrettsgigant-tar-lakseaktivist-til-retten-igjen-7019588.html>

You Tube, 16 October 2012



Watch video [online here](#)

Also reported via "[Answering Cermaq: Staniford Responds to Fish Farm Corp.'s BC Legal Appeal](#)" (Gorilla Radio, 17 October)

Green Around the Gills, 16 October 2012

Legal Action Vs. Cermaq in Clayoquot?

Mainstream Canada, a subsidiary of the [Norwegian Government-owned Cermaq](#), could become embroiled in [further legal action](#) in British Columbia following the [approval](#) of their Plover Point farm in the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.

"We will not allow governments and industry to run roughshod over our rights to clean water and sustainable fisheries," said Terry Dorward, Tla-o-qui-aht Elected Councilor, in a press release (15 October). "We are investigating legal options and will not rule out direct actions to stop Mainstream Canada's Plover Point fish farm."

The press release is enclosed in full below:



## *Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations*

TELEPHONE (250) 725-3350 P.O. BOX 18,  
(250) 725-3323 TOFINO B.C. VOR-2Z0  
FAX (250) 725-3352

Oct 15<sup>th</sup> 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **RE: TLA-O-QUI-AHT FIRST NATIONS OPPOSES DFO APPROVAL OF MAINSTREAM CANADA'S PLOVER POINT FISH FARM**

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The Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations is appalled to learn that on OCTOBER 9<sup>th</sup>, Department of Fisheries and Oceans issued a new aquaculture license to Mainstream Canada for an open net-pen salmon farm located in Fortune Channel near Plover Point. The new site will have negative impacts to our Wah-Na-Jus/Hilth-Hoo-iss (Meares Island) Tribal Park. In 1984, our Tla-o-qui-aht Hawiith (Hereditary chiefs) declared total preservation of Wah-Nah-Jus/Hilth-Hoo-iss Island based on title and survival of Indigenous way of life by protecting the ancient old growth with an intact ecosystem that is connected to the coastal waters. Our Tribal Parks Declaration clearly states that our seafood, shellfish, salmon streams, herring spawning areas and medical plants must be preserved for future generations.

"Fish disease outbreaks and pollution could devastate our already stressed salmon runs and shell fish sites near the Plover Point site, and put further constraints on our Tla-o-qui-aht strategic fishery planning. The Tla-o-qui-aht leadership has written several letters and voiced our opposition to Mainstream Canada, Ahousaht First Nations, DFO, Transport Canada, and BC, and our title and rights to the coastal waters have been clearly ignored. We will not allow governments and industry to run roughshod over our rights to clean water and sustainable fisheries. We are investigating legal options and will not rule out direct actions to stop Mainstream Canada's Plover Point fish farm." - Terry Dorward, Tla-o-qui-aht Elected Councilor.

For more information

Terry Dorward  
Tla-o-qui-aht elected councilor  
[seitcha@hotmail.com](mailto:seitcha@hotmail.com)  
250-726-4162

Download the press release in full [online here](#)

In January 2012, Terry Dorward was interviewed by [Norwegian TV](#).



"We've been concerned about the impacts of salmon farming in Tla-o-qui-aht and Nuu-chah-nulth territory and the impacts it has on our coastal communities," said Dorward. "The impacts of fish farms, the sea lice, the infectious diseases - we felt enough was enough. If the governments are not going to do it, then I believe the people will. The people will stand up. People will shut these farms down. It's that much of an important issue that people will go and fill up those jails."



"The next level in my view, if the government and industry doesn't listen, is we have to shut those farms down" continued Dorward.

Watch TV2's news report [online here](#)

For more background read "[Norway's TV 2 Lands in Vancouver: Mainstream/Cermaq SLAPP Suit Goes International](#)"



Read more details on Cermaq's legal battle in the Canadian courts via [“Cermaq Dig Deeper Hole by Appealing Lawsuit Loss”](#)

Following the approval of Cermaq's Plover Point salmon farm in the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, the [Coastal Alliance for Aquaculture Reform](#) and [Friends of Clayoquot Sound](#) both lambasted the government.

“DFO calls this new licence a ‘replacement’ for another site that has been inactive for 47 out of the last 51 months,” said David Lane, Executive Director of the T. Buck Suzuki Environmental Foundation in a [press release](#) (12 October). “Replacing a poorly producing site with a site able to greatly expand production of Atlantic salmon in open net-pens along the Bedwell Sound and Fortune Channel corridor is a recipe for disaster for wild salmon.”

“We are hugely disappointed that DFO took this decision at this time,” said Kelly Roebuck from Living Oceans Society. “The Cohen Report is due out in less than a month and the recommendations from that report may have an impact on salmon farming everywhere in B.C., not just along the migration routes of Fraser River sockeye.”

“The UNESCO Biosphere Reserve designation in Clayoquot Sound makes it the perfect proving ground for raising salmon in closed containment technology,” said John Werring, Senior Science and Policy Advisor for the David Suzuki Foundation. “The intent of the designation is to explore new ways to create employment that have less harmful environmental impacts and closed containment has huge potential to do just that by eliminating any interaction between the farmed salmon and their surrounding marine environment.”

“The Plover Point salmon farm site should never have been approved in advance of the Cohen Commission report and recommendations, which will likely bring in new measures to curb the expansion of salmon farming on the B.C. coast,” said Bonny Glambeck from Friends of Clayoquot Sound in a [press release](#) (12 October).

Friends of Clayoquot Sound also [wrote](#) to the Premier of British Columbia expressing "serious concerns" about the approval of Cermaq's new farm at Plover Point:



October 10, 2012  
The Honourable Christy Clark  
Premier of British Columbia  
Box 9041, Stn PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E1

Re: Approval of Mainstream Canada's new salmon farm tenure at Plover Point, Meares Island, Clayoquot Sound, L and File # 1413555

Dear Premier Clark,

We are writing you to express serious concerns about the approval of a new salmon farm tenure at Plover Point, off Meares Island in Clayoquot Sound.

Read the letter to the Premier of British Columbia Christy Clark - in full [online here](#)

During last year's Cohen Commission it was [revealed](#) that Infectious Salmon Anaemia (ISA) and a piscine reovirus associated with Heart & Skeletal Muscle Inflammation was present in salmon farms in the [Clayoquot Sound](#) UNESCO Biosphere Reserve:



**Fish Flu Found in Clayoquot Salmon**  
*Dr. Kristi Miller finds ISA virus in Creative Salmon farms*

Tofino BC — Evidence surfaced December 15th at the Cohen Commission in Vancouver that Infectious Salmon Anemia (ISA) virus is present in Clayoquot Sound at Creative Salmon's chinook salmon feedlots. A newly emerging deadly virus called Heart and Skeletal Muscle Inflammation (HSMI) is also present in Creative's farmed salmon.

HSMI was first identified in 1999 on a Norwegian salmon farm. The virus is often fatal, and the original outbreak has been followed by hundreds of other outbreaks in Norway and the United Kingdom. This year the virus was found in Chilean fish farms for the first time. HSMI has also been found in wild fish where salmon farms operate.

"The news that these viruses are here in the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Reserve is chilling" said Bonny Glambeck, Friends of Clayoquot Sound campaigner, "This virus puts at risk not only the wild salmon, but the ancient rainforest for which this region is renowned." Despite the abundance of pristine salmon habitat, Clayoquot's salmon runs are in free fall, with some runs now being counted in the tens, rather than in the tens of thousands.

Read more via "[Fish Flu Found in Clayoquot Salmon](#)" and "[Kristi Miller Steals Show Again as Salmon Inquiry Rocked by New Virus Bombshells](#)"

Earlier this month (5 October), Cermaq [reported](#) to the Oslo Stock Exchange financial losses of \$9 million due to infectious diseases in Clayoquot Sound and at home in Norway. Here's the report (5 October) in the Norwegian trade publication [Intrafish](#):

## Cermaq takes \$9 million hit on disease outbreaks in Q3

Oslo-listed salmon farming company reports losses on disease outbreaks at farms in Canada and Finnmark.

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 IntraFish Media

**Published:** 04 October 2012 07:30 PM

**Updated:** 05 October 2012 07:53 AM

Cermaq's third quarter results will reflect hits from outbreaks at its farms in Canada and Finnmark in the third quarter.

It will take a loss of \$5.4 million (NOK 31 million / €4.2 million) for the IHN outbreak at site in Millar, Canada, run by its subsidiary Mainstream Canada. The outbreak affected 1 million fish at an average weight of .4 kilograms. Although Cermaq has filed a request for financial compensation, it is uncertain whether it will receive it.

In Finnmark, pancreas disease affected 740,000 fish at an average weight of .75 kilos, costing the company \$3.5 million (NOK20 million / €2.7 million), which will be charged to group accounts in the third quarter of 2012 as well.

Mainstream Canada also had a high level of algae blooms in the third quarter, causing a mortality increase that will result in about \$878,100 (€674,200 / NOK5 million) in losses in the third quarter as well.

Cermaq is now seeking financial compensation for the spread of infectious diseases in the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. However, a public backlash is building.

"How's this for a business model: You bring together thousands of fish, stick them in an open net in the ocean, despite warnings that the conditions invite infectious disease, and then, when they all get sick, you receive compensation from the Canadian taxpayer," [wrote](#) Andrew Gage at West Coast Environmental Law (14 August).

"So why would fish farm companies be able to claim compensation for losses through disease?" continued Gage. "Even if you [buy their line that these diseases were spread from wild fish](#) (the Friends of Clayoquot Sound have [data that suggests otherwise](#)), these companies, and not the Canadian taxpayer, made the choice to have Atlantic salmon in open net farms in waters infested by wild salmon with their yucky diseases, and apparently [made the choice not to vaccinate them against those diseases](#)."

"A bailout for these losses would mean that they don't even have to pay for losses that come with open net salmon farming, and as such represents a direct subsidy to what many, including West Coast Environmental Law, believe to be an unsustainable industry," concluded Gage. "These are very large companies, with private insurers. They can afford to pay for the costs of their own choices. We believe that the law should ensure that fish farm companies are responsible for the real costs of their operations. Bailing out these companies would definitely be a step in the wrong direction."

Read more via "[Will your tax dollars subsidize BC's unsustainable fish farms?](#)" and "[Compensation Culture](#)"

<http://donstaniford.typepad.com/my-blog/2012/10/legal-action-for-cermaq-in-clayoquot.html>

The Courier-Islander, 16 October 2012

Activist sticks to his guns in face of court appeal



Don Staniford says  
Mainstream's appeal against his  
recent legal victory is an  
example of bad public relations.

Mainstream Canada will file an appeal of a Supreme Court of BC decision in its defamation claim against anti-salmon farming activist Don Staniford.

Justice Elaine Adair dismissed the case in September, saying while Staniford's statements were defamatory and he was motivated by malice, the activist honestly believed in what he was saying and animosity wasn't his dominant purpose. Mainstream lost the previous case when the judge agreed with the company's claim that Staniford had defamed it, but ruled that he had done so under "fair comment."

The trial, which ran from January 16 to February 10 2012, was for what the company called "a prolonged, malicious, and unfounded attack on Mainstream Canada and its employees."

Mainstream Canada said in a release Monday announcing the appeal that Adair's decision, if it stands, could compromise healthy debate on matters of public policy.

The British -born Staniford was removed from Canada this past February for overstaying a visitor's permit, but says he will return next year for a lecture tour with the leader of the Green Warriors of Europe, an environmental organization. And in response to the news of the appeal, Staniford, in a written response, was apparently again standing in the middle of the street waiting for the clock to strike 12.

"Mainstream Canada has once again ignored the first rule of PR: when in a hole stop digging," he wrote. "Their knee-jerk reaction to appeal is a case of shooting themselves in the foot. Common sense is clearly not a currency this Norwegian-owned multi-national is used to dealing in.

"The ugly truth is that Norwegian-owned salmon farming kills all around the world. No amount of saber-rattling, intimidation and bullying by this Norwegian government-owned corporation will alter the fact that salmon farming kills sea lions, spreads infectious diseases and even results in the death of their own workers."

According to a company press release the judge in the case concluded that Mainstream was a responsible corporate citizen, ruling that "they are conscious of the need to operate the business in a manner consistent with producing a product that is safe to consume and contributes to a healthy and nutritious diet."

The company release said the judge found that the activist's comments were defamatory and actuated by express malice toward Mainstream. She described the language in his publications as "extreme, inflammatory, sensationalized, extravagant and violent."

"We are pleased that the judge acknowledged the good work by Mainstream and that she found that the activist's comments were defamatory," said Mainstream's lawyer David Wotherspoon. "While it is disappointing that she ruled against us on a technical legal issue, we will pursue this vigorously in the court of appeal."

<http://www2.canada.com/courierislander/news/story.html?id=0bd0ad1d-9f32-476e-8d93-d6ff413e48e4>

The Canadian Press/Ottawa Citizen/Montreal Gazette/Global News/MSN/CTV, 16 October 2012

B.C. salmon farming company appeals judge's ruling in defamation case

By Keven Drews



Don Staniford, of The Global Alliance Against Industrial Aquaculture, poses for a photograph in Vancouver, B.C., on Saturday January 7, 2012. (THE CANADIAN PRESS/Darryl Dyck)

VANCOUVER - The defamation case between a British Columbia salmon-farming company and an outspoken critic appears to be far from over.

Mainstream Canada said Monday that it would appeal a September decision by a B.C. Supreme Court justice to dismiss a defamation case against Don Staniford, but only hours later the British-born activist responded, saying he'd fight the appeal.

At issue is a 2011 Global Alliance Against Industrial Aquaculture campaign that included images of cigarette-like packages and statements such as "Salmon Farming Kills Like Smoking."

Justice Elaine Adair dismissed the case in September in favour of Staniford's defence of fair comment, saying while his statements were defamatory and he was motivated by malice, the activist honestly believed in what he was saying and animosity wasn't his dominant purpose.

"While it is disappointing that she ruled against us on a technical legal issue, we will pursue this vigorously in the court of appeal," said David Wotherspoon, the company's lawyer in a statement.

The company also said that Adair's decision, if it stands, could compromise healthy debate on matters of public policy, and those debates should be based on fact, and critics should be accountable for their comments.

"Mainstream Canada and their parent company Cermaq have once again ignored the first rule of PR: when in a hole stop digging," said Staniford, in response to Mainstream's announcement Monday night.

"Cermaq's knee-jerk reaction to appeal is yet another case of this multi-million dollar company shooting itself in the foot. Common sense is clearly not a currency this Norwegian-owned multinational is used to dealing in."

Staniford, who was removed from Canada this past February for overstaying a visitor's permit, also repeated his plans to return to B.C. in March 2013, at which time he'll begin a speaking tour with Kurt Oddekalv, the leader of the Green Warriors of Norway.

The court action with Mainstream Canada is not the first faced by Staniford.

His first legal threat came from a Scottish salmon-farming company in 2001 but that never went to trial.

He also won a new trial that has yet to happen after appealing a defamation victory by B.C.'s Creative Salmon Company in 2007.

Staniford said last month the court case had cost him about \$100,000 even with his lawyer, David Sutherland, working at a reduced rate, but Mainstream spokeswoman Laurie Jensen said the company had not yet tallied its costs.

#### Related Stories

[B.C. salmon-farming critic vows to keep fighting from Norway](#)

[Activist wins defamation case launched by salmon-farming company](#)

[Fish farm opponent fights defamation charges in B.C.](#)

<http://www.ottawacitizen.com/news/salmon+farming+company+appeals+judges+ruling+defamation+case/7394201/story.html> and

<http://www.montrealgazette.com/news/salmon+farming+company+appeals+judges+ruling+defamation+case/7394201/story.html> and <http://theyee.ca/CanadianPress/2012/10/16/Fish-Farm-Defamation-20448601/> and

<http://www.globalnews.ca/sports/canada/bc+salmon+farming+company+appeals+judges+ruling+in+defamation+case/6442734211/story.html> and

<http://www.canada.com/news/salmon+farming+company+appeals+judges+ruling+defamation+case/7394201/story.html> and <http://news.ca.msn.com/canada/bc-salmon-farm-appeals-defamation-ruling> and

<http://www.leaderpost.com/news/salmon+farming+company+appeals+judges+ruling+defamation+case/7394201/story.html> and <http://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/b-c-salmon-farming-company-appeals-ruling-in-defamation-case-1.997379> and

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/story/2012/10/16/bc-salmon-farm-defamation.html> and <http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/canada/bc-salmon-farming-company-appeals-judges-ruling-in-defamation-case-174292931.html>

Green Around the Gills, 16 October 2012

Cermaq Digs Deeper Hole Appealing Lawsuit Loss

Mainstream Canada, a subsidiary of the [Norwegian Government-owned Cermaq](#), [filed an appeal](#) in the Court of Appeal in British Columbia (15 October).

"Mainstream Canada says in a [release](#) announcing the appeal that Adair's decision, if it stands, could compromise healthy debate on matters of public policy," [reported](#) The Canadian Press (15 October). "The company says that public policy debates should be based on fact, and critics should be accountable for their comments."

"Mainstream Canada and their parent company Cermaq have once again ignored the first rule of PR: when in a hole stop digging," commented Don Staniford who will be fighting the appeal. "Cermaq's knee-jerk reaction to appeal is yet another case of this multi-million dollar company shooting itself in the foot. Common sense is clearly not a currency this Norwegian-owned multinational is used to dealing in"



"The ugly truth is that Norwegian-owned salmon farming kills all around the world," continued Staniford. "No amount of sabre-rattling, intimidation and bullying by this Norwegian Government-owned corporation will alter the fact that salmon farming kills sea lions, spreads infectious diseases and even results in the death of their own workers."



Counsel for Mr. Staniford, [David Sutherland](#), said (16 October) that he does not want to argue the appeal in the public media. "The issues of fact and law are well laid-out by the trial judge in her careful reasons, which have not been accurately characterized since the decision by the salmon farming industry," said Sutherland. "Generally, freedom of speech is most important in contexts where people strongly disagree. There must be scope for expression of opinion, apparently based on fact that can be proved, as here, no matter how "exaggerated and obstinate" the opinion may be."



According to Mainstream Canada's [press statement](#) (15 October): "Mainstream believes this decision, if left to stand without an appeal, has the potential to compromise healthy public debate on matters of public policy. While such debate should be encouraged, it should be based on fact, and critics should be held accountable for their public commentary."

Mainstream's lawyer David Wotherspoon said: "We are pleased that the judge acknowledged the good work by Mainstream and that she found that the activist's comments were defamatory. While it is disappointing that she ruled against us on a technical legal issue, we will pursue this vigorously in the court of appeal."



"Justice has been served as Cermaq has been slapped right back in the face," said Staniford in an interview with [The Westerly News](#) (4 October) following the lawsuit victory.

"We need to think about that in company with the fabulous work of Joel Bakan about whether corporations are essentially mentally ill," [said](#) Staniford's lawyer David Sutherland following the trial in February 2012. "They are driven by profit, but they qualify for the elements of mental illness."



Read more via "[Media lawyer for Don Staniford calls for changes in the way corporations can sue for loss of reputation](#)"

Last month (28 September), Mainstream Canada suffered a defeat when Justice Adair dismissed their case.

### **Summary and Disposition**

[202] Although I have concluded that Mr. Staniford's statements are defamatory of Mainstream, I have concluded that he should succeed on his defence of fair comment. I have found that he was actuated by express malice towards Mainstream. However, I have found that he had an honest belief in the statements he made, and injuring Mainstream because of spite or animosity was not his dominant purpose in publishing the words in issue.

[203] In view of those findings, I do not intend to address damages or other remedies.

[204] The plaintiff's action is, accordingly, dismissed.

[205] If counsel wish to make submissions on costs, they have leave to do so and should contact Scheduling to arrange a convenient date.

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

The Vancouver Sun [reported](#) (28 September): "In an emailed statement, Staniford maintained his attack on the industry at full volume.

"This judgment is a victory for free speech," he said. "The Norwegian government's malicious attempt to abuse the Canadian courts to muzzle fair and honest criticism of Norwegian-owned salmon farming has back-fired spectacularly. Cermaq should now go back to Norway taking their disease-ridden salmon feedlots with them."



For more details visit GAAIA's [web-site](#) and read:

[“Activist sticks to his guns in face of court appeal”](#) (The Courier-Islander, 16 October)

[“B.C. salmon farming company appeals judge's ruling in defamation case”](#) (The Canadian Press/Ottawa Citizen, 16 October)

[“Mainstream Canada appeals defamation ruling”](#) (Mainstream Canada, 15 October)

[“Rafe Mair's Landmark Free Speech Case Credited in Salmon Activist Staniford's Victory”](#) (Common Sense Canadian, 12 October)

[“Lessons from a fish farm defamation lawsuit”](#) (West Coast Environmental Law, 12 October)

[“Salmon farm activist acquitted of defamation”](#) (The Daily News, 4 October)

[“Mainstream defamation suit dismissed by BC Supreme Court”](#) (The Westerly News, 4 October)

[“The Case of a Corporate Moron: How Cermaq Abused the Canadian Courts”](#) (Wild Salmon First, 3 October)

[“Defendant odious, but still wins suit”](#) (Times Colonist, 3 October)

[“Seier for Staniford/Victory for Staniford”](#) (NJFF, 2 October)

[“Staniford vant over Cermaq”](#) (Norwegian Fish Farmer, 1 October)

[“Stor seier for Don Staniford!/Great victory for Don Staniford!”](#) (Green Warriors of Norway, 30 September)

[“Score one for the enviros”](#) (The Vancouver Observer, 29 September)

[“Aktivist vant mot norsk oppdrettsgigant/Activist Wins Against Norwegian Salmon Farming Giant”](#) (NRK, 29 September)

[“Salmon-farming activist wins in court”](#) (The Canadian Press, 29 September)

[“Court dismisses salmon farming defamation suit”](#) (Times Colonist, 29 September)

[“Activist wins defamation case launched by salmon-farming company”](#) (The Canadian Press, 28 September)

[“B.C. Supreme Court upholds right of anti-salmon farm activist to make defamatory remarks/“Court upholds salmon farm foe's right to make defamatory remarks”](#) (The Vancouver Sun/Times Colonist, 28 September)



For more details see GAAIA's web-site [online here](#)

Norwegian salmon farming is making news for all the wrong reasons - all around the world (read 'Global News Update' [online here](#)). Something is really rotten in the state of Norwegian-Owned salmon farming.



Read more via "[Something is Rotten in the State of Norway](#)"

Norwegian farmed salmon has also been named in the [Norwegian media](#) as the source of the salmonella outbreak in smoked salmon which has so far killed two people in the Netherlands - with the Dutch health agency predicting the death toll could rise to 17!

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FRANK PERRY/SKJERMEDUMP AFP/E24

## Gir gresk fabrikk skylden for salmonella i «norsk laks»

Read more via [“Two Dead After Eating Infected Farmed Salmon - Death Toll Set to Rise to 17!”](#)

<http://donstaniford.typepad.com/my-blog/2012/10/cermaq-dig-deeper-hole-by-appealing-lawsuit-loss-.html>

Undercurrent News, 16 October 2012

Nordea forecasts 75% dive in Cermaq earnings

The third quarter result for Norwegian salmon farming and feed producer Cermaq is expected to be NOK 90 million (\$15.86 million), down 75% on the third quarter of 2011, said a Norwegian analyst.

This figure includes NOK 56 million in one-off write-downs, said Nordea analyst Kolbjorn Giskeodegard.

In addition, earnings in Chile and Canada have been hit by low prices in the US, Giskeodegard said in a report.

“We expect focus on Chile after the recent acquisition and consequently a higher share of the total operations related to Chile,” he said.

“We keep our NOK 95 target price and reiterate our buy recommendation,” he added.

Cermaq recently acquired Cultivos Marinos Chiloe, a farmer in Chile.

Cermaq will report its third quarter results on Oct. 23.

- [Mainstream Canada appeals defamation ruling](#)
- [Cermaq loses nearly €7.5m to diseases](#)
- [Cermaq acquires Chilean salmon farmer](#)
- [Staniford wins Canada court victory](#)
- [Cermaq: Risk diversification key in Chile](#)

<http://www.undercurrentnews.com/2012/10/16/nordea-forecasts-75-dive-in-cermaq-earnings/>

The Westerly News, 16 October 2012

Mainstream Canada appeals Staniford ruling

Andrew Bailey

Mainstream Canada has filed an appeal of the BC Supreme Court's decision regarding the company's defamation claim against Don Staniford.

As reported October 4 by the Westerly News, Justice Elaine Adair ruled that Staniford's anti-salmon farming statements were indeed defamatory but were also fair and no damages were awarded to the Mainstream plaintiffs.

Mainstream has filed the appeal because the company believes Adair's decision could potentially compromise public debate on matters of public policy, according to a recent Mainstream media release.

The company says it encourages public debate from its critics but these critics should be held accountable for ensuring their comments are factual.

Mainstream believes comments made by Staniford were inaccurate.

The company operates 17 fish farms in the Tofino area.

[reporter@westerlynews.ca](mailto:reporter@westerlynews.ca)

<http://www2.canada.com/westerly/story.html?id=bbad8e9a-6d41-4ad8-b1ed-954ef51128df>



CREDIT:

On October 15, Mainstream Canada announced it has filed an appeal of the Supreme Court of BC's decision in the company's defamation claim against Don Staniford.

Intrafish, 16 October 2012

# Mainstream Canada appeals defamation decision

Initial ruling against Mainstream hung on a 'technical issue,' lawyer says.

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 IntraFish Media

**Published:** 16 October 2012 06:02 AM

**Updated:** 16 October 2012 08:52 AM

Mainstream Canada is appealing the British Columbia Supreme Court's decision to deny its defamation claim against anti-salmon farming activist Don Staniford.

The trial, which ran from January 16 to February 10 2012, was responding to what Mainstream calls "a prolonged, malicious, and unfounded attack on Mainstream Canada and its employees."

The company argues that the judge found the activist's comments defamatory and actuated by express malice toward Mainstream. The judge also concluded Mainstream was a responsible corporate citizen, Mainstream said.

"We are pleased that the judge acknowledged the good work by Mainstream and that she found that the activist's comments were defamatory," David Wotherspoon, Mainstream's lawyer, said. "While it is disappointing that she ruled against us on a technical legal issue, we will pursue this vigorously in the court of appeal."

Mainstream believes this decision, if left to stand without an appeal, has the potential to compromise healthy public debate on matters of public policy. While such debate should be encouraged, it should be based on fact, and critics should be held accountable for their public commentary, the company said.

<http://www.intrafish.com/global/news/article1357397.ece>

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

World Fishing & Aquaculture, 16 October 2012

## Mainstream Canada appeals ruling

Mainstream Canada has filed an appeal of a Supreme Court of BC decision in its defamation claim against anti-salmon farming activist Don Staniford.

The trial, which ran from 16 January to 10 February of this year, was responding to a "prolonged, malicious and unfounded" attack on Mainstream Canada and its employees.

Based on the evidence at trial, the Judge concluded that Mainstream was a responsible corporate citizen: "They are conscious of the need to operate the business in a manner consistent with producing a product that is safe to consume and contributes to a healthy and nutritious diet."

The judge found that the activist's comments were defamatory and actuated by express malice toward Mainstream. She described the language in his publications as "extreme, inflammatory, sensationalised, extravagant and violent." However, she accepted the defendant's fair comment defence.

Mainstream's lawyer David Wotherspoon said, "We are pleased that the judge acknowledged the good work by Mainstream and that she found that the activist's comments were defamatory. While it is disappointing that she ruled against us on a technical legal issue, we will pursue this vigorously in the court of appeal."

Mainstream believes this decision, if left to stand without an appeal, has the potential to compromise healthy public debate on matters of public policy. The company says that while such debate should be encouraged, it should be based on fact, and critics should be held accountable for their public commentary.

Links to related companies and recent articles ...

### [Mainstream Group/Cermaq ASA](#)

- [Court finds activist claims to be malicious](#)
- [Mainstream Canada farm empty](#)
- [IHN virus confirmed at Mainstream farm](#)
- [IHN virus found at Mainstream Canada farm](#)
- [Mainstream Canada tests positive for IHN](#)

<http://www.worldfishing.net/news101/mainstream-canada-appeals-ruling>

Norwegian Fish Farmer, 16 October 2012

Mainstream against Staniford



Canada: Mainstream Canada today announced it has filed an appeal of a Supreme Court of BC decision in its defamation claim against anti-salmon farming activist Don Staniford.

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Mainstream believes this decision, if left to stand without an appeal, has the potential to compromise healthy public debate on matters of public policy. While such debate should be encouraged, it should be based on fact, and critics should be held accountable for their public commentary.

Don Staniford's reaction:

"Mainstream Canada and their parent company Cermaq have once again ignored the first rule of PR: when in a hole stop digging," commented Don Staniford who will be fighting the appeal. "Cermaq's knee-jerk reaction to appeal is yet another case of this multi-million dollar company shooting itself in the foot. Common sense is clearly not a currency this Norwegian-owned multinational is used to dealing in"

"The ugly truth is that Norwegian-owned salmon farming kills all around the world," continued Staniford. "No amount of sabre-rattling, intimidation and bullying by this Norwegian Government-owned corporation will alter the fact that salmon farming kills sea lions, spreads infectious diseases and even results in the death of their own workers."

[http://fishfarmingxpert.com/index.php?page\\_id=76&article\\_id=96123](http://fishfarmingxpert.com/index.php?page_id=76&article_id=96123)

Read also: "[Mainstream Canada fights Supreme Court decision](#)" (FIS, 17 October)

Marlborough Express, 16 October 2012

Iwi not consulted – lawyer

Penny Wardle

Planning expert Sarah Dawson yesterday agreed to alter her evidence to reflect the lack of consultation between New Zealand King Salmon and the Ngati Koata iwi.

The King Salmon expert agreed when questioned by iwi lawyer Frank Hippolite that the company did not achieve face-to-face consultation with Ngati Koata. Consultation was a two-way street, she told the Environmental Protection Authority board of inquiry hearing King Salmon's application to build nine new fish farms in the Marlborough Sounds.

The company did its best to consult with Ngati Koata, Ms Dawson said. Attempts were ongoing and letters had been sent to the iwi in late September and early October.

Mr Hippolite said King Salmon employed one of the biggest and most expensive law firms in the country and hired experts in every area but failed to consult with Ngati Koata. This was despite 43 mentions in the iwi's management plan of the importance of consultation and how it should be done.

In her evidence, Ms Dawson said she did not know proposed fish farm sites with iwi values. She had since learned from a submitter that there were significant sites near proposed farms in the Waitata Reach of Pelorus Sound but not where they were. Mr Hippolite said the Ngati Koata Iwi Management Plan explained some sites would not be divulged for reasons including revealing seafood gathering sites.

Ms Dawson had said Maori would benefit from marine farming space or cash settlement if King Salmon gained its space, Mr Hippolite said. "To say iwi would paddle off into the sunset happy with 20 per cent of what King Salmon would get is not quite accurate, is it?" he asked.

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/marlborough-express/news/7820820/Iwi-not-consulted-lawyer>

Marlborough Express, 16 October 2012

Trial and error over time

Penny Wardle

New Zealand King Salmon would "learn by doing" if it is allowed to build nine new salmon farms in the Marlborough Sounds, planner Sarah Dawson said in Blenheim yesterday.

Ms Dawson ended three days of cross-examination by answering questions from members of the Environmental Protection Authority board of inquiry which will decide whether the nine farms can be built.

"In normal practice if you could not set thresholds, would this be a show-stopper," commissioner Mark Farnsworth asked.

Ms Dawson said she had worked on other applications with no hard and fast thresholds. "There are situations where it is necessary to write the outcomes in words rather than numbers," she said, adding that the words in King Salmon's consent conditions would be developed to numbers refined over time.

Experts agreed it would take 10 or more years to gather information describing the environment from the surface to the seabed.

Serious problems could develop in the water column but they could be quickly reversed and the risk was low, Ms Dawson said.

Mr Farnsworth asked whether from an aerial perspective the Marlborough District Council planning had successfully protected the Sounds.

At a Sounds level, yes, Ms Dawson said, but the Waitata Reach of Pelorus Sound was compromised by the number of marine farms.

Asked how a planner could measure their success, Ms Dawson said a good outcome at this hearing would be approval of the plan change and resource consents applied for by King Salmon. Ongoing success would be accomplished by adaptive management, conditions, robust peer review and the setting and achieving of thresholds.

Ms Dawson agreed with board commissioner Helen Beaumont that wording of the proposed plan change implied support for continued expansion of salmon farming. The words could be changed to enable the farming of salmon by identifying appropriate sites, she said.

Asked by Ms Beaumont whether the application set up the potential for King Salmon to monopolise fish-farming space in the Sounds, Ms Dawson said the Sounds was not teetering on the point where no more effects could be assimilated.

However, she agreed future applications could threaten the viability of King Salmon by overloading water with fish waste and threatening biosecurity by reducing the distance between clusters of farms.

King Salmon was submitting on two such applications heading to appeal after being considered by the Marlborough council, Ms Dawson said.

The application did not allow for the use of antibiotics to be included in feed, Ms Dawson said.

If there was a disease problem, the company would use other measures such as vaccination and good husbandry.

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/marlborough-express/news/7821066/Trial-and-error-over-time>

Irish Times, 16 October 2012

Aran fish farm could create 500 jobs

ALISON HEALY, Food and Farming Correspondent

A PUBLIC consultation has begun into Bord Iascaigh Mhara's licence application process for a deep-sea fish farm in Galway Bay near the Aran Islands.

The project has been described by BIM's chief executive Jason Whooley as "extremely significant" involving a potential 500 jobs and €100 million of exports.

The licence application is for the production of 15,000 tonnes of organic-certified salmon a year which would double Ireland's current salmon production.

Mr Whooley said this output would be built up over six years. The 500 new jobs would involve 350 jobs in production and processing and 150 indirectly in areas such as transportation and materials.

Mr Whooley said this would provide a €14.5 million annual wages flow, mainly in the vicinity of the proposed farm. Rossaveal is the nearest landing point for the fish.

Irish organic-farmed salmon is a premium product in Europe, and commands on average a 50 per cent premium on farmed salmon produced elsewhere. “The single biggest issue facing Irish salmon producers today is that they cannot fulfil the demand for their product,” said Mr Whooley.

The licence application must be approved by Minister for Agriculture, Marine and Natural Resources Simon Coveney, and over the next eight weeks any member of the public may make submissions to his department.

Friends of the Irish Environment has expressed concern at the fact that the department which approves the licence is also overseeing the body that has made the application.

Its director, Tony Lowes, said this was “regulatory capture at its purest”.

He has also raised concerns about issues such as the scale of the project, the potential for pollution and the spreading of disease.

Mr Whooley said an unprecedented level of scientific research had gone into identifying the locations, with some of the State’s most eminent marine scientists involved.

“We are confident that the very carefully chosen locations, matched with the rigorous monitoring that must accompany any salmon farm in Ireland, will enable the proposed development to run successfully and produce premium organic salmon, something that Ireland is world renowned for.”

He said the agency was committed to full and transparent communications during this consultation process, and wanted to ensure that members of the public were fully informed about the proposed development.

All of the application information, including the environmental impact statement, drawings and artists impressions of the proposed development, are now available on the BIM website [bim.ie](http://bim.ie).

Copies have also been left in places such as Garda stations and post offices in the immediate area, and information meetings will be held over the coming weeks.

If the project is approved BIM will seek a suitable commercial operator to run the salmon farm. However, it will retain the licence so that the natural resource remains in the ownership of the State.

“This approach will allow BIM to apply additional standards to the running of the farm, to maximise returns to the local coastal economy in accordance with our mission to develop the Irish seafood industry and sustain coastal communities,” Mr Whooley said.

<http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/ireland/2012/1016/1224325298371.html>

Marlborough Express, 16 October 2012

Council wants details

Cathie Bell

The Marlborough District Council will question NZ King Salmon on how a disused salmon farm pontoon washed down the Pelorus River into the entrance of Havelock marina on Saturday night.

A report on the incident is being written for Government marine safety regulator Maritime New Zealand.

Council regulatory department manager Hans Versteegh said the council was also following up with King Salmon to find out what happened before deciding whether further action was required.

A Havelock resident alerted the duty harbourmaster on Saturday night that the 40-metre by 40-metre former salmon farm had been washed off Twiddles Island in the Pelorus River, where it was being cut up for sale as scrap, and was floating around in the main channel entrance to the marina.

A navigation warning was put out at 7.45pm on Saturday advising boaties it had broken loose, and King Salmon was advised.

"We'll be following up with questions. We are writing to NZ King Salmon to find out what happened, before deciding whether further action is required," Mr Versteegh said.

It had been "a pretty grim night" so there did not seem to be many people out on the water, he said. There had been no complaints from anyone obstructed by the pontoon.

King Salmon aquaculture manager Mark Preece said the company had moved the pontoon back to the island yesterday.

The weather was forecast to be fine this week and he expected the pontoon would be cut up and removed within three days.

There were no nets on the former farm, just the pontoon. The nets and superstructure had already been removed when the "pretty impressive flood" washed it down to Havelock.

The pontoon had been found just behind the Sanford factory near the entrance to Havelock marina, and King Salmon towed it back to Twiddles Island at high tide yesterday morning.

"Now the tide has dropped, we will be able to drag it up out of the water again," he said.

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/marlborough-express/news/7820646/Council-wants-details>

Fisheries Information Service, 16 October 2012



Farmed salmon. (Photo: Cermaq)

Cermaq concentrates over 55 pc of its salmon business in Chile



**Tuesday, October 16, 2012, 02:20 (GMT + 9)**

Following the agreement reached by [Cermaq ASA](#) to acquire all the shares of [Cultivos Marinos Chiloé](#), for USD 110 million, over 55 per cent of the salmon business of the Norwegian multinational firm is now in Chile.

The purchase of the Chilean aquaculture company will allow [Mainstream Chile](#) (Chilean subsidiary of the Norwegian company) to increase by 40 per cent in production volume.

According to official estimates, this year the Chilean salmon industry will manage to export products for a value close to USD 3,000 million.

The projected growth means that out of the 180,000 tonnes that Cermaq expects to produce globally, about 100,000 tonnes will come from its operations in Chile, said Francisco Miranda, Mainstream Chile general manager and chief executive of the European group in Chile.

In 2011, Cermaq's Chilean subsidiary had a turnover of USD 272 million, equivalent to 45 per cent of its global salmon sales, the newspaper *La Tercera* reported.

At present, with the acquisition of Cultivos Marinos Chiloé, the Chilean Mainstream subsidiary "clearly established itself as the largest firm of the group," ensured the entrepreneur.

The operations in Canada and in Norway are located further back, each representing 20 per cent and 35 per cent of total salmon sales of the group.

Miranda clarified that the increase in salmon production expected as a result of the purchase of Cultivos Marinos will not be reflected in 2012 results, "but these gradual effects will be observed from 2013."

Besides, he added that Chile is a "very good place" for the salmon business in the long term.

For Miranda, the salmon business will continue being very good in Chile if a sustainable aquaculture is practised: "It is a country with great potential for growth in aquaculture in general," he stressed.

With the acquisition of Cultivos Mrinos Chiloé, Cermaq had two main objectives: the flexibility of having a presence in neighbourhoods where it was not present and added value production.

Miranda stressed that when considering the three species that the company produces in Chile -- Atlantic and Pacific salmon and trout – it was the second largest exporter in the sector in the last couple of years, after [AquaChile](#).

The strategy is to continue producing these three species and to have a balanced presence in three production areas: X, XI and XII.

**Related article:**

- [Cermaq to acquire all shares in Chilean farming firm](#)

*By Analia Murias*

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<http://www.fis.com/fis/worldnews/worldnews.asp?l=e&country=0&special=&monthyear=&day=&id=56144&ndb=1&df=0>

The Canadian Press/Metro News/Vancouver Sun/Times Colonist, 15 October 2012

B.C. salmon farm appeals defamation ruling



The Canadian Press/Robert F. Bukaty and Jason Leighton Atlantic salmon swim in a pen in Eastport, Maine in this October, 2008 file photo.

VANCOUVER – A British Columbia salmon farming company is appealing a judge’s decision to dismiss a defamation case against an industry critic.

Mainstream Canada took British-born activist Don Staniford to court earlier this year over a 2011 campaign that included images of cigarette-like packages and statements such as “Salmon Farming Kills Like Smoking.”

Justice Elaine Adair dismissed the case in September, saying while Staniford’s statements were defamatory and he was motivated by malice, the activist honestly believed in what he was saying and animosity wasn’t his dominant purpose.

Mainstream Canada says in a release announcing the appeal that Adair’s decision, if it stands, could compromise healthy debate on matters of public policy.

The company says that public policy debates should be based on fact, and critics should be accountable for their comments.

Staniford, who was removed from Canada this past February for overstaying a visitor’s permit, says he will return next year for a lecture tour with the leader of the Green Warriors of Europe, an environmental organization.



Undated handout photo of Atlantic salmon on a fish farm in British Columbia, Canada.

Photograph by: Handout , Marine Harvest Canada

<http://metronews.ca/news/vancouver/404657/b-c-salmon-farm-appeals-defamation-ruling/>  
and

<http://www.vancouversun.com/news/Fish+farming+firm+appeals+ruling+defamation+case/7394412/story.html> and

<http://www.timescolonist.com/Salmon+farming+company+appeals+judge+ruling+defamation+case/7396087/story.html> and <http://www.castanet.net/news/Canada/81888/Fish-fight-over-defamation-case>

Mainstream Canada, 15 October 2012

Mainstream Canada appeals defamation ruling

Mainstream Canada today announced it has filed an appeal of a Supreme Court of BC decision in its defamation claim against anti-salmon farming activist Don Staniford.

The trial, which ran from January 16 to February 10 2012, was responding to a prolonged, malicious, and unfounded attack on Mainstream Canada and its employees.

Based on the evidence at trial, the Judge concluded that Mainstream was a responsible corporate citizen: "They are conscious of the need to operate the business in a manner

consistent with producing a product that is safe to consume and contributes to a healthy and nutritious diet."

The judge found that the activist's comments were defamatory and actuated by express malice toward Mainstream. She described the language in his publications as "extreme, inflammatory, sensationalized, extravagant and violent." However, she accepted the defendant's fair comment defense.

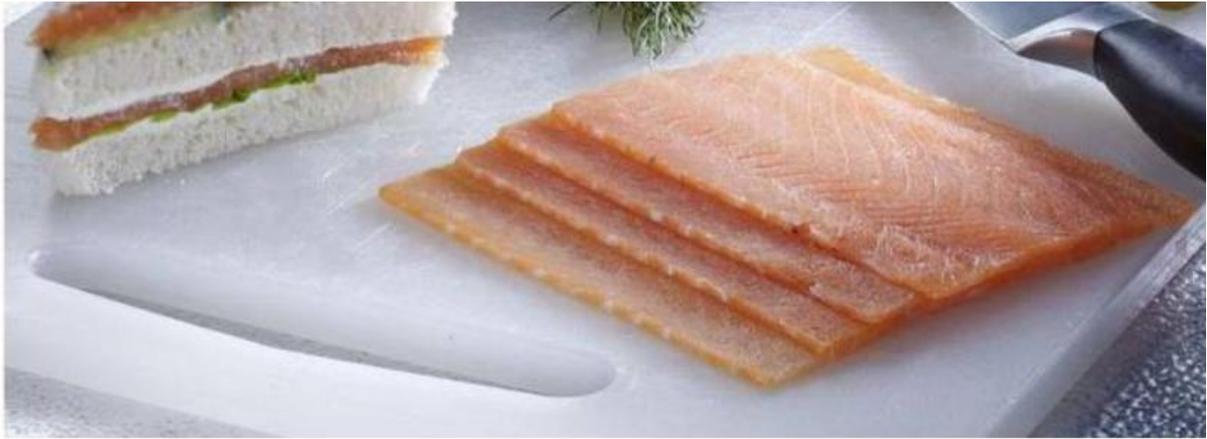
Mainstream's lawyer David Wotherspoon said, "We are pleased that the judge acknowledged the good work by Mainstream and that she found that the activist's comments were defamatory. While it is disappointing that she ruled against us on a technical legal issue, we will pursue this vigorously in the court of appeal."

Mainstream believes this decision, if left to stand without an appeal, has the potential to compromise healthy public debate on matters of public policy. While such debate should be encouraged, it should be based on fact, and critics should be held accountable for their public commentary.

*Media contact: David Wotherspoon 604 631-3179*

<http://www.mainstreamcanada.com/mainstream-canada-appeals-defamation-ruling>

Intrafish, 15 October 2012



## UPDATED: Foppen's 'grief' as two die from infected salmon

Dutch health agency said death toll could reach 17, with potentially 10,000 people being infected by now.

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 Rijuta Dey , IntraFish Media

**Published:** 15 October 2012 03:17 PM

**Updated:** 15 October 2012 02:28 PM

Two people in the Netherlands have died from eating salmonella-infected salmon produced by Dutch seafood company Foppen, according to the Dutch National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM).

RIVM told **IntraFish** that 550 people have fallen ill from eating the salmon and 200 ended up in hospital. The number of people infected could be as high as 10,000, a spokesperson told **IntraFish**, as not everybody infected reports it.

"There's been a very exceptional and large outbreak, and we expect the next week that there is still a lot of cases to recover," said RIVM director Roel Coutinho told local media.

At least one of the deaths is confirmed to be linked to consuming smoked salmon infected by salmonella thompson, the spokesperson said, and there are strong suspicions that the other one is the same, though not proven as yet.

Foppen sent out a press release to the Dutch media on Oct. 13 expressing 'grief' at the news. It sent the press release to **IntraFish** too, and it underlines that these reports haven't been confirmed by Foppen as yet.

"[The news] reached Foppen Eel and Salmon through the media about a death occurring as a result of a salmonella infection... Foppen has not itself able to confirm it," the statement said. "The actual facts and circumstances [of the deaths] is not known us."

The company expressed grief at the news and said its "thoughts and feelings go out to those who are directly involved", and that it had "no further comment" out of respect for their feelings.

In early October, **Foppen recalled 100,000 packages of smoked salmon** from retail shelves in the Netherlands after being alerted to the **contamination**.

The recall spread to the United States, where warehouse club giant **Costco was forced to pull private-label and Foppen brand product from its shelves** and **contact over 250,000 customers** who had purchased the product. The infected salmon is being blamed for roughly **100 illnesses in the United States**.

Based on mathematical models, RIVM estimates the number of deaths from the outbreak could reach 17.

The infectious salmon came from Foppen's operations in Greece.

<http://www.intrafish.com/global/news/article1357325.ece>

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

Read more details via "[Two Dead After Eating Infected Farmed Salmon - Death Toll Set to Rise to 17!](#)"

Perishable News, 15 October 2012

Verlasso & Inland Seafood Harmoniously Raised Salmon Heading Southeast



### **Verlasso**

*Verlasso® salmon also is available at retailers and restaurants through multiple regional distributors and direct-to-retail partnerships across the United States.*

MIAMI -- Verlasso®, the world’s first provider of harmoniously raised fish, continues to gain momentum through a new partnership with Inland Seafood, an Atlanta-based seafood distributor of more than 1,000 fresh, frozen, smoked and specialty seafood items. Through this new collaboration, Verlasso® Harmoniously Raised Salmon will now be available to seafood lovers who are looking for high-quality, healthy, sustainably raised food throughout the southeastern United States. Verlasso® salmon also is available at retailers and restaurants through multiple regional distributors and direct-to-retail partnerships across the United States.

“At Inland Seafood, we pride ourselves on bringing our customers the finest and most innovative seafood products available on the market. We see Verlasso® as a revolutionary leader in sustainable aquaculture, and we are even more excited by the great taste and quality of the fish,” said Chris Rosenberger, president of Inland Seafood.

With a responsibility to balance the needs of the growing population and the preservation of ocean life, Verlasso® has developed a comprehensive solution to many of aquaculture’s historic challenges. Most notably, through its ground-breaking feeding practices, Verlasso® requires 75 percent fewer feeder fish to raise Omega-3 rich salmon. In traditional farms, salmon receive Omega-3s from fish meal and fish oil provided by wild caught feeder fish, putting a significant strain on our oceans. While the average “fish in, fish out” ratio for fish oil and fish meal for salmon farms is about four pounds of feeder fish to produce one pound of salmon, Verlasso® has achieved an industry-first “fish in, fish out” ratio of 1:1 for both fish oil and fish meal. The differentiating Verlasso® 1:1 “fish in, fish out” for fish oil calculation is guided by the Aquaculture Stewardship Council’s salmon standards created during the World Wildlife Fund’s Salmon Aquaculture Dialogues and has been third-party verified by Det Norske Veritas (DNV).

“As Verlasso® celebrates its first anniversary, we’re proud to continue steady growth through a partnership with Inland that will extend our brand to consumers in the Southeast who care about sustainable, Omega-3-rich salmon that is delicious,” said Scott Nichols, director of Verlasso. “Inland Seafood shares our passion of delivering high-quality seafood to its retailer customers and consumers, while sourcing fish in a way that ensures the availability of seafood for generations to come.

For more information about Verlasso® harmoniously raised salmon, for sales inquiries and to find additional locations where Verlasso® can be purchased, visit [www.verlasso.com](http://www.verlasso.com). Or, join the conversation on the Verlasso® Conversations blog: <http://www.verlasso.com/conversation/all>, on Facebook, or follow us on Twitter @VerlassoSalmon.

### About Verlasso

Verlasso® is committed to continuous improvement in its aquaculture practices, working in concert with some of the world’s leading thinkers to sustain people, fish and the planet. The harmonious approach by Verlasso® was recently recognized with an Innovation Award at the 2012 SeaWeb International Seafood Summit and previously Seafood International magazine recognized Verlasso® as a “Best New Food of 2011,” and Specialty Food magazine as a “Top Food Trend of 2012.”

Verlasso is a brand and trademark of AquaChile. AquaChile and DuPont formed a collaboration that will blend the collective innovation and aquaculture expertise of the companies to identify how to raise fish sustainably to provide nutritious protein for a growing population.

<http://www.perishablenews.com/index.php?article=0025200>

Read more about DuPont’s GM yeast-fuelled farmed salmon via “[Packard Foundation funds group backing GMO-fed farmed salmon](#)” and “[There’s Something Fishy About Failures to Label GMO Food](#)”

RTE News, 15 October 2012

Public consultation on Galway Bay salmon farm begins

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An eight-week public consultation period concerning an application to develop a deep sea salmon farm licence by Bord Iascaigh Mhara is under way.

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The agency is seeking a licence to develop the farm in Galway Bay, 1.7km from the Aran Islands.

If licensed, it will produce 15,000 tonnes of organic-certified salmon per annum and create 350 jobs and 150 in supporting industry.

BIM plans to lease out the operation of the farm to commercial salmon producers.

The farm will occupy an area of 456 hectares over two adjoining sites and is the first of three that BIM hopes to develop.

Extensive consultation with local people has already taken place, as well as environmental impact studies.

<http://www.rte.ie/news/2012/1015/salmon-galway.html>

Alexandra Morton, 15 October 2012

Another town fighting fish farms

We drove from Shelbourne County to Freeport, including a short ride on the coolest ferry I have ever seen, the Petit Princess. Due to the huge tides, there on the edge of the Bay of Fundy, you drive down through the low tide zone onto a landing barge. During the winter Petit Princess runs only when a car shows up.



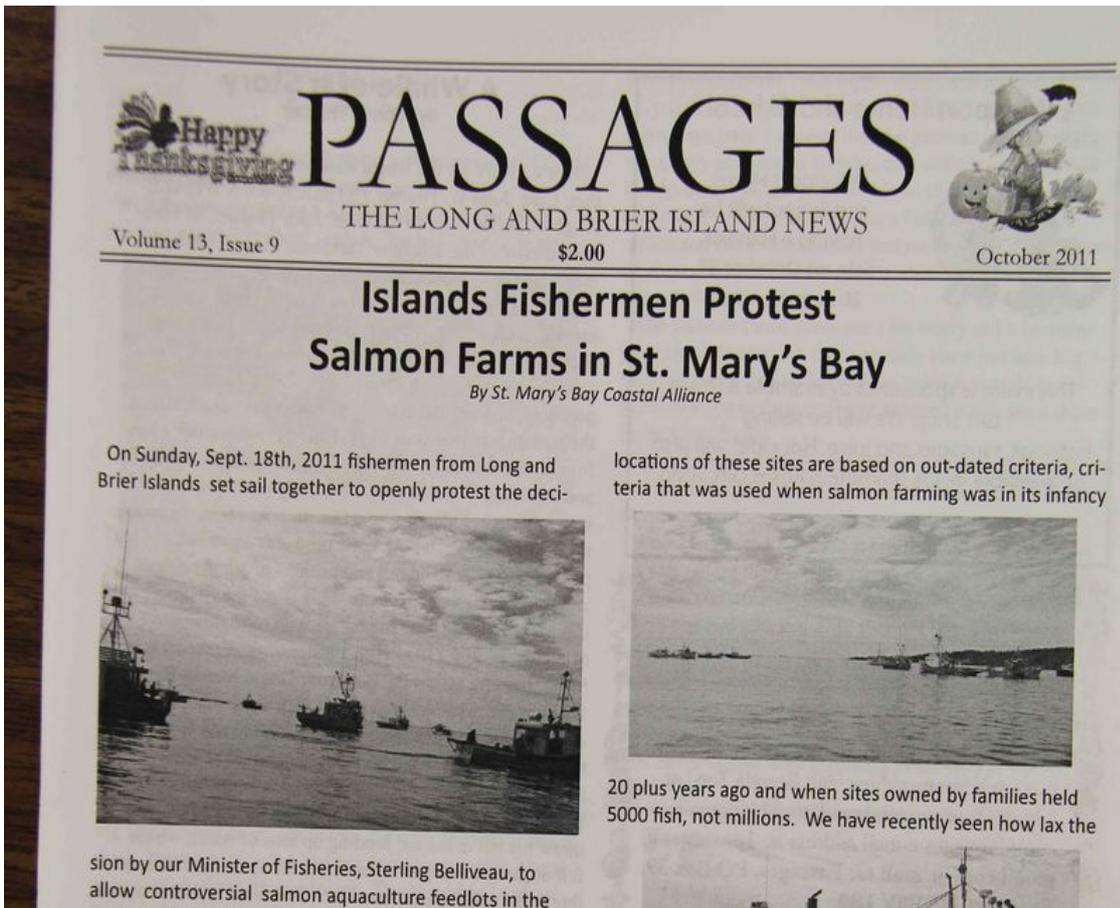
We arrived at the Freeport Development Center to room full of fishermen, whale watch operators and other local residents.



Many were part of the St. Mary's Coastal Alliance and deep in a battle to protect their community from salmon feedlots. Despite their fight, several Cooke Aquaculture farms had been anchored in their waters right on top of prime lobster fishing grounds.



“All we have ever said is NO and they still came,” says Sheldon, Lobster fisherman.



The two pen sets in St. Mary Bay holding a million farm salmon each are spaced only about 1,200m apart. I watched the 2 million farm salmon riding the Atlantic swells right in front of Sandy’s home. Sandy worked for years to build a home looking out to sea and now she is staring at two industrial feedlots.

Kathaleen has a farm so close she and her husband are looking right into the pens. She has posted [videos](#) on You Tube of the daily operations there.

I hear stories of how the people of Brier Island can't open their windows due the farm salmon waste on the beach. The value of their homes have fallen.

St. Mary Bay lobster are the highest valued lobster in Canada. Merchants around the world specifically seek out these lobster due to their high protein content which means they survive shipping better than any others.

People like Karen Crocker and others submitted over 1,000 documents to the Environmental Assessment process for these farms and did not receive a single response from the government! "The Environmental Impact Assessment, report is an assessment of how the environment could impact the farms, not how the farms will impact the environment," says Sandy who seems to know everything about the thick report.

When the fishermen of Freeport refused to give the salmon farmers a place at the dock, government threatened them saying if they didn't give the fish farmers space, they would not fix the dock. The fishermen said they would fix the dock themselves.

"Feels like we are playing a game with a bunch of cheaters," said one resident over our dinner - unbelievably delicious lobster chowder.

I was told about a study in West Bay. Before the salmon farms moved in DFO found 12 – 14 lobster per square meter, after one production cycle there were no lobsters. "No one will eat a lobster from West Bay." They tell me Harper pulled funding for the Lobster Lab, so government research on the most lucrative local fishery has been shut down. I tell they are going to have to do it themselves. The wealth of first hand knowledge in the room is impressive. They know their fish.

While Cooke Aquaculture tries to appease residents by saying they will be using less than 1% of the bay, the fishermen point out that only 10% of the bay is fishable and so 1/10th of their fishing grounds will be lost, under salmon farms. This reminds me of what happened to my prawn fishermen neighbours back in Echo Bay. The farms sat down on some of their best fishing grounds in Sir Edmund Bay, Misty Pass, Burdwood, Simoom Sound etc....

"We pay \$2,000 a year to fish lobster," says Sheldon. "Government doesn't reduce that cost as they take away the places we can fish."

But they all know that the problem is not just the area under the farms. The problem pours out of the farms as their bay is used as a dump. Cooke never cleans up after their fish, they never shovel their manure.

"Lobsters are real fussy about spawning habitat," says Frank. The lobster spawn on cobble bottom in sheltered bays – the same place the fish farmers are muscling their way into. DFO tells them the lobster will find another place. That may well be, but what about the community fishery?

We lost the cod, scallops, herring and now DFO is killing our Lobster. "The Environmental Assessment never even mentioned Lobster landings for Digby County," says Sandy. They tell

me that Cooke Aquaculture is now taking the bulk of the herring to make into farm salmon food and “we are getting the scraps.”

The guys tell me every community that has a salmon farm wants to get rid of it. I hear the New Brunswick fishermen were too scared to tell everyone what happened to them. The families that could afford it went offshore.

### [Chronicle Herald Article](#)

The local First Nation’s worked to restore the Bear River salmon. For 4 years they limed the river and cleared out old dams and debris. The salmon liked what they did and began returning! Success! Then the next year a whole lot of salmon appeared, but they “did not look right.” DFO came to the village and told residents they were escaped farm salmon and that they should not eat them, but some had already been eaten. The hungry farm salmon bred to eat, attacked and ate the young wild salmon restored to the river. Thirteen chiefs of Nova Scotia signed a statement opposing Cooke Aquaculture sites in St. Mary Bay due to impact on the wild Atlantic salmon of the Inner Bay of Fundy. But similar to the First Nations in BC, they have been ignored there are fewer than 300 wild salmon left.



In closing I want to say Nova Scotia is one of the most beautiful places I have ever been. The wide open Atlantic, the beautiful homes and gardens, the rivers and trees in fall foliage are absolutely lovely. The people have fire in their eyes. They are deeply attached to their communities and the communities are banding together. Everyone knows the people we talked to in the last community. Nova Scotia is an incredible part of Canada.

Article in full with more photos:

[http://alexandramorton.typepad.com/alexandra\\_morton/2012/10/another-town-fighting-fish-farms.html](http://alexandramorton.typepad.com/alexandra_morton/2012/10/another-town-fighting-fish-farms.html)

South Coast Today, 15 October 2012

Biologist says Nova Scotia coasts could be "dump sites"



Marine biologist Alexandra Morton says Nova Scotia's coastline is slated to become a dump site for the aquaculture industry.

Morton, who has spent 20 years studying the impact of fish farming on wild marine species in British Columbia, and was a prime intervenor in the lengthy Cohen Commission investigation into the relationship between open pen aquaculture and the decimation of the wild salmon stock in British Columbia, is warning that Nova Scotia's fisheries are in peril.

"There is a obvious conflict between industrial salmon farms and the lobster industry here," Morton said in an exclusive interview with SCT during a tour of salmon farm sites in Shelburne Harbour and proposed sites in Jordan Bay.

Morton has been on a tour of coastal communities over the past week, stopping in Sheet Harbour, Port Mouton, Jordan Bay, Shelburne and the Digby Neck. She will also visit communities and fishermen in New Brunswick and PEI.

In Jordan Bay, she [listened as lobster fishermen Ricky and David Hallet](#) described the lengths that they feel Fisheries and Aquaculture minister Sterling Belliveau has gone to ignore scientific evidence held by his department which points to Jordan Bay being a bad place to put salmon cages.

"These fishermen feel like aquaculture is destroying their way of life, Morton said."

The Hallett's showed Morton the blueprints from Cooke Aquaculture detailing the specifics of the cages they planned to install for up to one million fish in two separate sites in the bay.

"This is outrageous," said Morton on seeing the plans. "I've looked at dozens and dozens of siting plans for fish farms and never seen an attempt to put pens in such shallow water."

In addition to the cages being placed less than four metres from the bottom, Jordan has been known for decades as a valuable lobster nursery. The Halletts and other fishermen in the area also say that the exposure of the bay to wild winter storms and violent seas means that the cages are unlikely to remain in place over the winter season.

"If they put those cages there," says Ricky Hallett of the bay near his home and on which he has fished for thirty-five years, "I might as well pack up my gear and get out."

Morton said that, in talking to community members in the various communities, she believes that the Nova Scotia government is placing the fish farms against the express wishes of the various communities. [She details the specific of her visits on her blog.](#)

Morton is also in Nova Scotia to give the fifth annual Ransom A. Myers Lecture in Science and Society at Dalhousie University in Halifax on Friday. Morton will discuss the role of government, scientists and citizens in the development of aquaculture and its effects on wild populations.

<http://www.southcoasttoday.ca/content/biologist-says-nova-scotia-coasts-could-be-dump-sites>

For Argyll, 15 October 2012

Ewan Kennedy: New Environment Minister ducks call in on marine pollution

With a bit of fortuitous timing, a few days after the Scottish Government made it a little easier to bring challenges to official decisions in environmental matters, they announced a decision which, on the face of things, looks eminently challengeable.

Scottish Ministers, presumably in the person of the new Environment Minister Paul Wheelhouse, decided not to call in Lakeland Marine Farm's application to SEPA for a licence to dump effluent and other toxic materials in the Seil Sound from a proposed industrial installation housing up to 2,500 tonnes of salmon, equivalent to a population of 600,000 mature fish.

Those who have been following the saga of Ardmaddy will know the history.

The story started in the early 2000s when an installation at Loch Riddon was found to be polluting to such an extent that the local wild salmon population had effectively become extinct and there was a lot of pressure for it to be removed.

Following a series of working group meetings among representatives of Scottish Government, the industry and wild fish interests it was decided to move the facility by adding it to the existing Pan Fish unit at Ardmaddy, near the North end of Seil Sound.

Residents of Seil were not consulted. After some intense lobbying Argyll & Bute Council duly granted planning consent for this under the fast-track delegated procedure without a public hearing and SEPA granted a discharge consent, technically termed a CAR licence.

In granting the CAR licence SEPA relied on a computer modelling system known as *Autodepomod*. Factors such as known tidal stream data, seabed conditions and quantities are inputted. The computer then makes a prediction of the amount of pollution – i.e. toxic chemicals, faecal waste, uneaten food and so on – that the local ecology can handle.

Fish ‘farming’ is one of the few industries that are permitted by law actively to pollute the environment; but a company may only do so within an area known as the ‘allowable zone of effects’ (AZE).

After a few years it became clear from reports filed by the operating company with SEPA that the unit at Ardmaddy was polluting way beyond the permitted AZE. The most likely cause was the fact that tidal streams had proved much stronger than previously thought, carrying waste particles suspended in water way beyond the aze.

Everyone knows that if flawed data is inputted to a computer the results will also be flawed. ‘Rubbish in rubbish out’ proved to be literally true at Ardmaddy.

The sensible option might have been to reduce production from the polluting level of 1,300 tonnes to the previous 800 tonnes, at which the reports filed by Pan Fish had indicated ‘acceptable’ levels of pollution.

As an alternative the company, now Lakeland Marine Farm Limited, decided to relocate to another site a little further South, opposite the entrance to the Cuan Sound. To do so they required, in addition to planning consent, a fresh CAR licence.

The applications were duly made – but not just for permission to produce 1,300 tonnes. Instead, Lakeland sought permission to produce 2,500 tonnes. The basis for this was an assessment made by, you’ve guessed it, the same *Autodepomod* computer modelling system that had failed at the original site.

In fact 2,500 tonnes is the current maximum that the computer modelling can handle and accordingly the maximum that SEPA can consider consenting.

One does not need to be opposed to fish farming in general to find this deeply disturbing. Nor does the fact that computer modelling failed at Ardmaddy mean that the entire *Autodepomod* system is flawed. In suitable locations, where tidal streams have been accurately plotted and the local seabed conditions and geography properly assessed, it may well be fine.

Sea lochs are known to be tricky and treated as such by the system, but incredibly Seil Sound is not officially viewed as a sea loch. I suspect that the respectable scientists who developed *Autodepomod* as a useful tool would not disagree and would be concerned that the reputation of their product was being put at risk by its use in an inappropriate location.

In deciding to back SEPA in its total reliance on the computer, Scottish Ministers have lost a valuable opportunity to have the process thoroughly investigated via an inquiry before an independent reporter, hearing evidence from marine and scientific experts.

This would have been helpful, not only in safeguarding the local ecology at Seil, but to the aquaculture industry in general.

This article has looked exclusively at the issue of pollution, because that is what concerns SEPA and the CAR licensing system.

Many other issues are involved though and the fight is not lost just because the Scottish Government has decided that a licence to pollute the seabed at Ardmaddy should be granted.

Lakeland Marine Farm shoot seals and they want a licence to do so at Ardmaddy.

They may use acoustic scaring devices, intended to frighten seals away – despite evidence in research sponsored by the government itself that these damage other protected species such as porpoises and dolphins.

Incredibly, SEPA do not consider sea-lice to be pollution, so the effects on wild fish have not been properly assessed.

Under European legislation there should have been environmental assessments into these further matters, especially as the Seil Sound discharges directly into the Firth of Lorn Marine Special Area of Conservation, whose Southern boundary lies at the Cleit Rock in the Cuan.

Ignoring the issues may place the government in breach of the Habitats Directive with resultant complaints to the European Commission.

These general concerns have been recognised by Mike Russell MSP. In a letter to Argyll & Bute Council he wrote inter alia that ‘The grounds for objection are many and varied and include damage to tourism, loss of navigable water, possible danger to wildlife and interruption to kayaking which has grown greatly in the area and detriment to the special area of conservation.’

The final decision will now be left to Argyll & Bute Council when the matter comes back to the planning committee. The planning application attracted about 800 objections and was put on hold to allow the pollution issues to be resolved.

The planning officers and the elected members will do their best – and they will do so knowing that there is a huge question mark hanging over the methodology adopted by SEPA and with the limited resources available to them in these cash-strapped times.

To finish by quoting Mike Russell again – ‘at the very least there should be a public local inquiry’ – precisely what the Scottish Ministers have now ruled out in refusing to call in the CAR application.

***Ewan Kennedy***

<http://forargyll.com/2012/10/ewan-kennedy-new-environment-minister-ducks-call-in-on-marine-pollutions-on-marine-pollution/>

Port Townsend Leader, 12 October 2012

Response to Hugh Mitchell's comments in the PTLeader, 10.12.12

Several of the statements voiced by Hugh Mitchell in this piece concerning open water net pen salmon farming are inaccurate and ignore the scientific literature. While it is true that 'Every disease comes from the wild,' ~~that is not true~~ that every disease is world-wide. The introduction of exotic pathogens can have disastrous effects on local, native populations, as was seen with the introduction of whirling disease (caused by the parasite *Myxobolus cerebralis*) from Europe into trout populations in the U.S. Now that Infectious Salmon Anemia virus (ISAV) has been detected in B.C., we should be very concerned that this virus will move into WA state waters, as salmon migration pathways lead salmon originating from Puget Sound along the coast of B.C. en route to Alaska before they return to spawn. Statements of assurance that ISA is not in WA are indefensible, because without testing of hatchery, net pen, and wild stocks, we have no way of knowing- and thus we should not be complacent. At present no federal or state agencies are testing for ISA in salmon from Washington waters.

The assertion that wild stocks are the source of infection for net pen fish is also problematic. While it is true that some local viruses, like infectious hematopoietic necrosis virus (IHNV), which caused major losses to the Pacific Northwest salmon aquaculture industry in 2012, did originate in wild fish, open water net pens can amplify the number of these pathogens far above what would occur naturally. The high densities found in fish farms can lead to the shedding of huge amounts of pathogens into the seawater flowing through the pens, which can in turn infect local fish, particularly juvenile salmon, during their outmigration. I would be very interested in seeing the data that Mitchell based this statement upon: 'The dissolution is tremendous just a couple of meters from the pen the virus particles were down tremendously.'

Another, perhaps even more serious issue, is that the conditions found in seawater net pen facilities (crowding, stress, presence of multiple pathogens, frequent introduction of native hosts, and lack of selection for resistance due to all animals being harvested, rather than breeding those that are resistant) are conducive to the emergence of new, highly pathogenic viral strains that would not arise in a natural setting. Peer-reviewed, published research has documented this effect for ISAV (Nylund et al. 2003 Christiansen et al. 2011 Nylund et al. 2007), viral hemorrhagic septicemia virus (VHSV) (Einer-Jensen 2004), and IHNV (Troyer and Kurath 2003).

Finally, Mitchell's comment about sea lice completely misses the point. 'He added that greater salinity in the region's ocean might decrease the risk of lice infections and that having some sea lice wasn't that dangerous. 'One or two doesn't matter. That used to be a sign of a fresh fish, when you had one or two sea lice on it,' Mitchell said. First, our 'regional ocean' does not have higher salinities than those found in B.C. Second, one or two sea lice on an adult salmon is not a big deal- the problem is that open water net pens shed large quantities of sea lice onto juvenile salmon, which can impede their swimming strength and increase mortality, as has been shown in the scientific literature. And, as he correctly states, sea lice have been shown to be a vector for the transmission of several of the viral diseases mentioned above, which can increase disease transmission to native stocks.

Todd Sandell, M.S., Ph.D.  
Disease Ecologist  
Wild Fish Conservancy

<http://www.ptleader.com/main.asp?SectionID=36&SubSectionID=55&ArticleID=32295>

Hebrides News, 12 October 2012

### Unprecedented spread of salmon disease

Amoebic Gill Disease (AGD) exists in warm climates such as Australia, USA, Chile, Spain and France for many years but only turned up as a threat in the UK and Ireland very recently. Scientists are puzzled at the rapid spread of the disease in Scotland and theorise if the parasite has changed or if environmental conditions have altered.

Water temperature and salinity levels are contributing factors.

The dry summer in the north of Scotland with little rainfall leading to increased salt levels in sea lochs has apparently created the crisis.

AGD is rife in virtually all sea farms across Lewis, Harris and Uist. It is also affecting Skye, Argyll, Shetland and Orkney.

Industry body, the Scottish Salmon Producers Organisation (SSPO) said: "The treatment being used, highly diluted Hydrogen Peroxide (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>), transforms to water and oxygen in the water and is entirely safe for both fish and the marine environment."

Marine Harvest spokesman Steve Bracken said: "In June and July weather conditions in the Western Isles were very unusual. As a result we experienced much higher seawater temperatures and higher salinity levels than is the norm which has led to an increase in amoebic gill disease (AGD).

"Although the amoebae is harmless to humans, and present in seawater all over the world, high levels of it would eventually suffocate the fish, so it can't be left untreated.

"AGD is treated using either freshwater or hydrogen peroxide. The hydrogen peroxide is harmless and is often used in toothpaste and shampoo. In the salmon pens it rapidly breaks down into water and oxygen.

"As it's an oxidising agent it has to be transported in specialist tankers and we have taken steps to explain to the local community why there are additional tankers on the road."

A spokesperson for The Scottish Salmon Company said: "Amoebic Gill Disease (AGD) is a naturally occurring water-borne amoeba which irritates the gills of the salmon but does not affect the surrounding eco-system. It is normally a short term event caused by unseasonably warm water temperatures.

"Once present, AGD can take hold and cause significant loss of fish and there have been instances of AGD affecting fish health across the industry recently.

“At The Scottish Salmon Company we take the health and wellbeing of our fish very seriously and work rigorously to protect the natural environment and eco-systems in which we operate.

“We undertake daily health checks and where an incidence of AGD is discovered we act quickly in accordance with industry best practice guidelines, our own exacting veterinary procedures and Government regulation through our Marine Scotland licence.”

The SSPO says salmon farming is one of biggest private employers in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland.

The industry has injected over £1.4 billion into the economy during the last four years with over 500 new jobs created during the last three years.

Salmon farming in Scotland directly employs 2,124 people and thousands more jobs in the salmon supply chain.

[http://www.hebrides-news.com/salmon\\_disease\\_in\\_western\\_isles\\_121012.html](http://www.hebrides-news.com/salmon_disease_in_western_isles_121012.html)

Fish Farming Xpert, 12 October 2012

Puchi: "The acquisition just made by Cermaq is good news for the industry"

Chile: Victor Hugo Puchi, president of Empresas AquaChile, welcomed the acquisition recently made by the Norwegian state company Cermaq ASA, referring to it as "good news for the industry," due to the progress it means in the pursuit of the industry's consolidation.

### Christian Pérez

The businessman said that the acquisition of the Chilean salmon firm Cultivos Marinos Chiloé (CM Chiloé) at the hands of the Cermaq is welcomed. "It is good news for the Chilean industry and we see it with admiration," he said. He added that this is a great achievement, but said that when it comes to AquaChile, he prefers unions or mergers between producing companies, rather than a consolidation through acquisitions.

"After 25 years in operation in this industry, no company is dispensable. We must partner between different producers in order to make more robust companies from the sanitary point of view which can better address the different markets," he said.

Empresas AquaChile remained in the first place among the largest salmon producing companies in our country for 16 months in a row, until the purchase of CM Chiloé positioned Cermaq in the first place. Regarding the possibility of taking actions that could allow them to regain that position, Victor Hugo Puchi said that his company is not in a race for being the production leader. "We are interested in doing things right and if we can help by partnering with other companies, we will do it when this is appropriate and when the opportunity appears," he added.

## New regulations

As for the new regulations developed for the sector, the president of Empresas AquaChile said that the principle achieved by the Authority is the most valuable accomplishment, since it meant abandoning the previous model where productivity growth was the main driver. Instead, he said, there is now awareness about sanitary sustainability as the most determining criteria. "The government will regulate us so that we can prevent and anticipate crises. In addition, if it is necessary to produce less, we will have to do it and if we need to relocate farming sites to other areas for sanitary reasons, we will do it too. This process is a substantial improvement in the production conditions, which reduce the sanitary risk of the industry and we see it as a positive change," he said.

Finally, he said that there is no possibility of a crisis in the short-term, such as that experienced with the ISA virus a few years ago, "because at the onset of an outbreak, the state is now prepared to contain the spread of any disease", he concluded.

[http://fishfarmingxpert.com/index.php?page\\_id=76&article\\_id=96080](http://fishfarmingxpert.com/index.php?page_id=76&article_id=96080)

Fisheries Information Service, 11 October 2012



Salmon farming centre. (Photo: Sernapesca/Stock File/FIS)

'The judicial sanction is unfair', argues salmon entrepreneur



**Thursday, October 11, 2012, 00:30 (GMT + 9)**

The manager of Farming of [Salmones Magallanes](#) (formerly [Acuimag SA](#)), Oscar Garay Krogh, regretted the sentence of the Court of Appeals of Punta Arenas against the company for the mismanagement of mortality rates in a salmon farming centre. The salmon company was ordered to pay 450 UTM, equivalent to about CLP 16 million (USD 33,800).

Last year, the centre of the Magallanes Region was denounced by the [National Fisheries and Aquaculture Service](#) (Sernapesca) while being declared under the category of infectious

salmon anemia (ISA) outbreak. At that time, the authority considered that this centre had performed "mismanagement of mortality rates."

But in a statement to *Aqua*, the entrepreneur regretted that "news had been partially released" given the fact that they did not have the opportunity to offer their version of what happened so as "to provide a full view of the situation."

"As a company and personally speaking, we have painfully accepted the sentence not because of the fine but due to the image projected and to the fact that the sanction is unfair," he continued.

"At the beginning of last year we were harvesting in a centre that was positive to an ISA strain, which was not the most virulent strain but it was different from HPR0, considered harmless," said Garay Krogh. "This centre had a higher mortality rate than usual and as a result of this situation the mortality disposal system of the centre (incinerator) was not sufficient to eliminate the fish daily and permission was requested to dump the surplus or to send it to the silage processing plant," he explained.

He also said that while health authorities prohibited the movement, Sernapesca authorized it. "Who did we have to respect?," he wondered. "If we moved it without the authorization from Health, we exposed ourselves to a fine from this entity, if we did not move it, we would be subjected to a fine from Sernapesca."

After explaining the situation to all the agencies involved, eventually the company was authorized "to move 20 bins to the plant for silage," a process that was carried out as soon as the permission was obtained, which was countersigned by a movement certificate from Sernapesca. "But still, the Service fined us for having bins collected at the centre," complained the executive from Salmones Magallanes.

Another problem occurred when the bins were sent to the processing plant while harvesting. "We sent the 20 bins with mortality, duly authorized and to take advantage of the freight, further three bins were sent with ice remains. As they were carried in the same vehicle, the regulators assumed that these three bins also carried mortality and, therefore, their movement was unauthorized," Krogh Garay reported to *Aqua*.

"This led to the second cause of offense, which was analyzed as a single one," the entrepreneur pointed out.

At trial the company was acquitted and it was determined that no offense had been committed. But lawyers for the local Sernapesca appealed to the Court of Appeals of Punta Arenas, which revoked the earlier ruling and condemned the company.

"But the main basis of its conviction is the 'presumption' that an offense was committed and that the company gave no evidence to rebut the presumption," Krogh stressed.

Although this is considered unfair, Salmones Magallanes manager said he found it "very positive that these issues are openly addressed, that sanctions are made public as well as the companies' defense, if possible."

**Related article:**

- [Court sanctions salmon firm for mortality rates mismanagement](#)

By *Analia Murias*

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[www.fis.com](http://www.fis.com)

<http://www.fis.com/fis/worldnews/worldnews.asp?l=e&country=0&special=aquaculture&monthyear=&day=&id=56035&ndb=1&df=0>

Salmon Are Sacred, 11 October 2012

Connecting the dots: Alex Morton goes to Eastern Canada

By Ivan Doumenc

The maxim “Divide and Conquer” has served the salmon farm industry well. Even as it spreads across the globe, this industry has promoted the story that the ecological and economic devastation brought by salmon feedlots – whether in Norway, Chile, Scotland, Atlantic Canada or British Columbia – are “local” phenomena unrelated to one another.

Alexandra Morton has responded to the industry’s propaganda machine with her feet, by relentlessly visiting communities impacted by salmon feedlots in person. “*I realized, travelling through salmon land, that there is a wealth of knowledge there, and we want to bring those people together*”, Morton explained [at a recent talk](#) in Vancouver, B.C.



5th Annual  
Ransom A. Myers Lecture  
in Science and Society  
Friday, Oct. 19th, 2012, 7pm



## Farmed Salmon vs. Wild: the role of government, scientists and citizens



Venue: Potter Auditorium  
Rowe Management Building  
Dalhousie University  
Reception to Follow

Speaker: Dr. Alexandra Morton  
Founder and Director of the  
Raincoast Research Society  
Simoom Sound, BC Canada

Alex Morton and fellow campaigner Anissa Reed are back on the road. They are travelling to Eastern Canada **from October 11 to 21**. There, they will meet local folks who are trying to protect their own communities from the destruction of industrial salmon farming.

Alex and Anissa will tell people about the science, about what's happening with B.C.'s feedlots, about the stunning and truly damning testimonies heard at the Cohen Commission in Vancouver last year, about the tremendously successful [salmon testing campaign](#) conducted

by the citizens of that province in spite of the hostility of industry and government.

They will help people of Atlantic Canada construct a larger picture of the situation, see that there are indeed clear patterns of destruction in the wake of salmon feedlots from community to community. They will show them that salmon farming is indeed a global not a “local” plague.

Alex and Anissa will be at Dalhousie University on Friday, **October 19** at 7PM, where Alex will be giving a presentation for 5th Annual Ransom A. Myers Lecture. This talk is open to the public. Check [Alex's blog](#) for updates on what we learn about salmon farms in Eastern Canada.

Back in Vancouver, on **October 24**, Dr Alexandra Morton (an honour bestowed upon her by SFU for her scientific work with sea lice) will be presented with of the [SFU Sterling Award](#) along with co-winner Dr. Richard Routledge of SFU. This award is in support of controversial science! They will be giving lecture together entitled "Salmon Farms and Disease: The importance of Both Academic Freedom and Community-Engaged Research.



Please join us for the presentation of the  
**2012 Sterling Prize in Support of Controversy to**

**Dr. Alexandra Morton  
& Dr. Richard Routledge**

Join us for their Sterling Prize Lecture:

***Salmon Farms and Disease:  
The Importance of Both Academic Freedom  
and Community-Engaged Research***

**Wednesday, October 24, 7pm**

Morris J Wosk Centre for dialogue  
580 West Hastings Street, Vancouver  
(enter from Seymour Street courtyard)

***Reception Follows***

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Sponsored by the Vice-President, Academic

[www.sfu.ca/sterlingprize](http://www.sfu.ca/sterlingprize)

Also in salmon news, at the **end of October**, after much delay, the [Cohen Commission](#) will present its recommendations regarding the decline of the Fraser River sockeye. After reviewing the half million documents provided to the Commission, Alexandra Morton [submitted a report](#) which was entered as evidence.

Regardless of the Cohen recommendations, citizens of British Columbia are continuing their own investigation into the presence of three European salmon viruses, using top labs in the world.

Send us an email if you want to be put on our mailing list. [info@salmonaresacred.org](mailto:info@salmonaresacred.org)

<http://www.salmonaresacred.org/blog/connecting-dots-alex-morton-goes-eastern-canada>

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News updates are now archived and available in full – [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!

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