

Press Update – 28 October 2012

[“Deadline Looms”/“Mystery Illness”/“Mass Sickness”/“Not Defamatory Enough”](#)

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

[“Fish farm at centre of mystery illness was warned over safety by US agency”](#) (The Sunday Herald, 28 October)



SATURDAY 27 OCTOBER 2012

Fish farm at centre of mystery illness was warned over safety by US agency

exclusive By Rob Edwards Environment Editor

A Scottish fish farming plant, whose workers complained of a mystery illness, had been reprimanded by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for "serious violations" of food safety rules on pesticides in salmon.

[“Don Staniford: “Norwegian Fish Farms: Stop Killing Wild Salmon!”](#) (You Tube, 27 October)

[“Deadline looms for report into Fraser Valley’s sockeye salmon collapse”](#) (The Canadian Press/The Province, 26 October)

[“Salmon inquiry spawns opportunity”](#) (The Vancouver Sun, 26 October)

[“Salmon Stocks Declining”](#) (CTV, 26 October)

[“Council investigation follows sickness outbreak in all staff in Argyll fish farm processing”](#) (For Argyll, 26 October)

[“Statement from Scottish Sea Farms”](#) (Fish Update, 26 October)

[“Marine Harvest's Salmonopoly Loss - Q3 \\$\\$\\$\\$\\$s drop 86%!”](#) (Green Around the Gills, 26 October)

[“Marine Harvest fails to consult with locals over Isle of Skye expansion plans”](#) (BBC Radio Scotland, 26 October)

[“2-star rating a first in BC – Marine Harvest Canada achieves BAP certification”](#) (The Courier-Islander, 26 October)

[“Japan to ban expansion of bluefin tuna farms”](#) (Hindu Business Line, 26 October)

[“Fish farms to pilot new environmental performance standards”](#) (ABC News, 26 October)

[“King Salmon seeks consent for work”](#) (Marlborough Express, 26 October)

[“Sterling Prize winners Richard Routledge and Alexandra Morton”](#) (Simon Fraser University, 25 October)

[“Mystery illness strikes Argyll fish processing plant”](#) (The Oban Times, 25 October)

[“Probe into mass sickness at processing plant”](#) (The Daily Mail, 25 October)

[“Scottish Sea Farms staff walk out over sickness: an investigation into the cause is underway”](#) (Intrafish, 25 October)

[“Salmon Farming is Sickening: FDA warning for "adulterated" Scottish farmed salmon "injurious to health"”](#) (Green Around the Gills, 25 October)

[“We must protect Scotland’s seas”](#) (Scottish Wildlife Trust, 25 October)

[“Sobeys to Canadians: sea lice case nothing to worry about: removal of salmon ‘completely unnecessary’”](#) (Intrafish, 25 October)

[“Will Justice Cohen Protect Wild Salmon?”](#) (Wild Salmon First, 24 October)

[“Alexandra Morton Receives Two Academic Honours, Forces Farmed Salmon Recall”](#) (Common Sense Canadian, 24 October)

[“Marine Harvest Canada gets BAP two star rating”](#) (Intrafish, 24 October)

[“Scottish Sea Farms staff walk out over sickness”](#) (Fish Update, 24 October)

[“Anti-salmon farm campaigners call for Dáil support”](#) (West Cork Times, 24 October)

[“Clare salmon farm plan draws interest from 17 firms”](#) (Irish Times, 24 October)

[“Atlantic Salmon Trust Highlight Three Key Salmon Survival Issues”](#) (Fish & Fly, 24 October)

[“Warnings of Caligus increase in salmon farms: sea lice poses concern among Chilean authorities because its incidence rose in farming centres”](#) (FIS, 24 October)

[“Cermaq plans 35% production increase”](#) (Intrafish, 24 October)

[“Cermaq tables 37% volume increase for 2013”](#) (Undercurrent News, 23 October)

[“Disease takes chunk out of Cermaq profits”/“Cermaq Q3's 'satisfactory' results despite complicated salmon market”](#) (Seafood Source/FIS, 23 October)

[“Sobeys investigates handling procedures after sea lice found on Atlantic salmon”](#) (Yahoo News, 23 October)

[“Sobeys: salmon removal only temporary”](#) (Intrafish, 23 October)

[“Cultivos Marinos acquisition creates bumpy path for Cermaq”](#) (Intrafish, 22 October)

[“Dr Alexandra Morton speaks in Halifax”](#) (Radio 4 All, 19 October)

[“Fish Controversy Nets Sterling Prize”](#) (Simon Fraser University, 17 October)

[“Not defamatory enough”](#) (Seafood Executive, October)

Including from Elena Edwards of [Wild Salmon First](#) speaking before her visit to Scotland & Ireland (28 October):

“May the global voices for wild salmon unite to deliver the message to Norway that Norwegian salmon farms are not welcome and must go! The flag and declaration will be travelling to Scotland and Ireland to support efforts to stop Norwegian owned salmon farms from killing wild salmon. The more names on the flag the stronger the message which will be brought to Norway next year. Your voice matters!”



From Damien Gillis writing in [The Common Sense Canadian](#) (24 October):

“It's been a busy couple of weeks- for salmon biologist and anti-fish farm activist Alexandra Morton. In between receiving two prestigious academic honours on opposite sides of the country, she found the time to drop by a few Sobeys grocery stores in Halifax, discover clumps of sea lice on the farmed salmon they were selling and create a national media story

that prompted the retailer to yank all the whole farmed salmon from their maritime stores. All in a week's work for the indefatigable defender of wild salmon.”

From [The Canadian Press](#) (26 October) on the final report from the Cohen Commission:

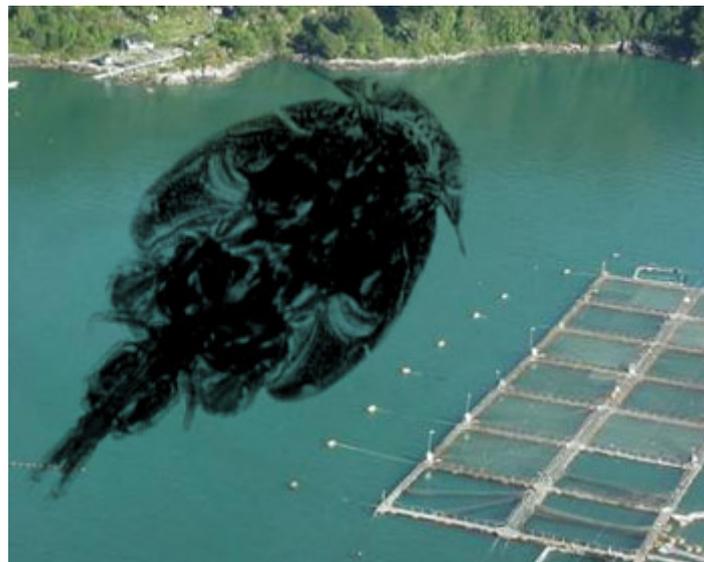
“There's no justification for them getting the report on Monday and excluding the public and the participants from having copies of that report," said Ernie Crey, an adviser to the Sto:lo Tribal Council. "I can't think of a single reason that they could come up with to justify that. It's up to them to explain why they want to sit on it.”

From Jeffery Young writing in [The Vancouver Sun](#) (26 October):

“The most startling and noteworthy evidence was related to political influence within Fisheries and Oceans Canada- from hiding revelations of a foreign disease from fish farms found in wild salmon to the muzzling of a scientist whose results weren't favourable to industry.....Will it let its scientists talk again so we can have an open discussion about issues ranging from disease and parasite impacts from open net-cage salmon farms to protecting lakes and streams from pipelines and mines?”

From [FIS](#) (24 October) on increasing problems in Chile with sea lice:

“The head of the Undersecretariat of Fisheries and Aquaculture (Subpesca), Pablo Galilea, warned about the "significant" increase in *Caligus* in salmon companies in the country. In addition to expressing concern about the health status of the local salmon farming, the undersecretary considered that private initiatives to modify the health regulations are "insufficient," *Diario Financiero* reported. "What concerns us most is *Caligus*, which had its prelude in the crisis caused by the infectious salmon anemia (ISA), which has increased considerably," he pointed out.”



From [The West Cork Times](#) (24 October):

“The Save Bantry Bay (SBB) committee have, this week, contact all 166 TDs in an effort to outline their opposition to the proposed licensing of Marine Harvest Ireland’s plans to create

a 14 cage salmon farm off Shot Head in Bantry Bay. “We are calling on all our TDs, all 166 of them, to look to the future. For a handful of jobs now, we will all pay for the damage this will cause to Bantry Bay and we will see hundreds of jobs lost in the years ahead,” SBB chairman Kieran McCarthy.”

From the Atlantic Salmon Trust via [Fish & Fly](#) (24 October):

“There are two activities of man that, in the context of the survival of the Atlantic salmon cannot continue. The first is salmon farming as currently practised on both sides of the Atlantic which, beyond any doubt, is causing serious damage to wild salmon and sea trout in the aquaculture zones.”

From Andrew Zimmern writing in [The Huffington Post](#):

“Instead of farmed imported salmon, try eating small fish, whole, with the heads, and do so seasonally. From mackerel to trout to sardines, weaning ourselves off of the luxury fish makes sense environmentally, ecologically, economically and culturally. By making just these small changes, we will ease the pressure off of those commodity farms, and by voting with our wallets and our mouths we send a large message to all of Big Ag and Big Food.”



From Alexandra Morton and Professor Richard Routledge on winning the [Sterling Prize in Support of Controversy](#) at Simon Fraser University (24 October):

“What they don’t understand is the more we get attacked the higher our credibility rises,” says Morton. “I simply remain dedicated to using science to measure and define the impact of farm salmon pathogens on wild salmon. My observations suggest the impact is very serious and government is afraid to do anything about it.”

“The controversy has been very counterproductive,” says Routledge whom fish farmers have labeled an activist. “It has delayed vitally important regulatory changes that are needed if we are to reduce the currently unacceptable risks to the preservation of abundant runs of wild Pacific salmon.”

From [The Courier-Islander](#) (26 October):

"Right now, we are providing our customers with a continuous supply of BAP certified salmon," says Clare Backman, Sustainable Programs Director at Marine Harvest Canada. "We are delighted that our feed supplier has also achieved BAP certification, as this is a key element of sustainable production that will be welcomed by our valued customers."

From [Fish Update](#) (24 October):

“An investigation is continuing into the cause of a sickness which saw staff in the processing plant of a west coast of Scotland fish farm walk out over fears for their health. Staff at Scottish Sea Farms site in Connel, left their posts on October 11 after feeling ill and coughing and vomiting. One Scottish Sea Farms employee, who did not wish to be named, said the sickness had been ongoing for ‘two to three’ weeks.

He said: ‘Everyone in the processing area is coughing, vomiting and feeling like their chest is tight. Over 20 people are feeling ill on a daily basis. There is usually at least seven people off per day. We tried to talk to bosses but were told it is because people smoke but some of the people getting ill don’t smoke.’”

From [The Sunday Herald](#) (28 October):

“The revelation the plant had been investigated earlier by the FDA has sparked fierce criticism from an anti-fish farming campaigner. "It's now official – salmon farming makes people sick," said Don Staniford, from the Global Alliance Against Industrial Aquaculture. "I'd rather eat my own vomit than eat Scottish farmed salmon. The ugly truth is that consumers should avoid farmed salmon like the plague. Cheap and nasty farmed salmon leaves a bad taste in the mouth."

Staniford claimed it must be "stomach-churning" for staff at the Argyll plant to discover the FDA had warned that its fish could be harmful to health. "Scottish farmed salmon, like cigarettes, should carry a government health warning," he argued.”



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

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Salmon Disease Testing

Salmon Disease Testing Fund

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

Created by Alexandra Morton

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

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Best fishes,

Don

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The Sunday Herald, 28 October 2012

Fish farm at centre of mystery illness was warned over safety by US agency



exclusive By Rob Edwards Environment Editor

A Scottish fish farming plant, whose workers complained of a mystery illness, had been reprimanded by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for "serious violations" of food safety rules on pesticides in salmon.

A processing plant at Connel, in Argyll, which is run by Scottish Sea Farms, was warned by the FDA in March that it was in breach of US federal regulations.

"Your firm's aquaculture farmed salmon appear to be adulterated," the FDA said, "in that the products have been prepared, packed, or held under conditions whereby they may have been rendered injurious to health."

The company exports salmon worth £12 million a year to the US, and its Argyll plant was visited by FDA inspectors in September 2011. They were concerned about the way fish were tested for residues of three pesticides used to kill sea lice.

The plant has also seen half its 40 staff fall sick recently, with some suggesting that toxic chemicals they were exposed to at work could be to blame. However, this was denied by Scottish Sea Farms.

But the revelation the plant had been investigated earlier by the FDA has sparked fierce criticism from an anti-fish farming campaigner.

"It's now official – salmon farming makes people sick," said Don Staniford, from the Global Alliance Against Industrial Aquaculture.

"I'd rather eat my own vomit than eat Scottish farmed salmon. The ugly truth is that consumers should avoid farmed salmon like the plague. Cheap and nasty farmed salmon leaves a bad taste in the mouth."

Staniford claimed it must be "stomach-churning" for staff at the Argyll plant to discover the FDA had warned that its fish could be harmful to health.

"Scottish farmed salmon, like cigarettes, should carry a government health warning," he argued.

Scottish Sea Farms, however, insisted there was "no connection" between the FDA reprimand and the outbreak of illness. It pointed out that the FDA had concluded in August that the issues it had raised had been "adequately addressed".

According to Rory Conn, the company's UK sales and commercial manager in Stirling, it now complied with FDA regulatory requirements.

"Farmed salmon have been exported to the US by Scottish Sea Farms for many years and these exports continue with the full knowledge and approval of the US authorities," he said.

The company said 20 staff had made management aware they were suffering flu symptoms on October 11 this year. They had been sent home, and advised to consult their doctors.

"Scottish Sea Farms immediately launched an investigation which included requesting a site visit from the local environmental health officer. Following a full internal investigation and an inspection by environmental health, no source for the illness was identified," the company added.

"All chemicals used for cleaning the plant were confirmed to be at acceptable and normal standards," it said. "The members of staff that were ill returned to work over the course of the next few days and processing operations continued as normal."

Scottish Sea Farms also supplies salmon to Marks and Spencer. It is branded "Lochmuir salmon", a fictional location invented by the retailer to aid sales.

M&S described the warning from the FDA as a "minor issue" that had been dealt with. The illness at the Argyll plant was seasonal flu, a company spokeswoman said.

When contacted by the Sunday Herald last week, the FDA initially said the warning to Scottish Sea Farms was "still considered open at this time". But an FDA spokeswoman later issued a correction saying the case was now "closed".

Related articles

[Fish farm deaths predicted to rise](#) Home News Tue 17 Jul 2012

[Outcry at refusal to reveal seal cull sites](#) Home News Wed 27 Jun 2012

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/environment/fish-farm-at-centre-of-mystery-illness-was-warned-over-safety-by-us-agency.19262934>

You Tube, 27 October 2012



Norwegian salmon farms are spreading like a cancer throughout the global marine waters. Scotland is experiencing serious disease and sea lice issues from Norwegian owned salmon farms, and Ireland is facing a battle against the largest salmon farming operation being proposed for their backyard.

Don Staniford explains why GAAIA is touring Scotland and Ireland through November to help stop the expansion of a dangerous industry and unite the global voices in saying "Enough is enough! Norwegian salmon farms get out!"

Read more about the campaign via <http://salmonfarmingkills.com/scotland-ireland-tour-november-2012>

Watch online via: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BwpCnzotX6Q&feature=youtu.be>

The Canadian Press/The Province, 26 October 2012

Deadline looms for report into Fraser Valley's sockeye salmon collapse



The final report stemming from the Cohen commission into the collapse of the Fraser Valley's sockeye salmon population is expected next week.

Photograph by: Les Bazso , PNG

VANCOUVER — A report that's expected to explain why and how millions of sockeye salmon vanished from B.C.'s Fraser River must be handed into the federal government next week, but it's still unclear when, or even if, the public will get to see a copy.

Under the terms of reference, B.C. Supreme Court Justice Bruce Cohen must deliver his report to the federal government by Monday.

"Our terms of reference only discuss the submission of the report, they don't discuss making the report public," said Carla Shore, commission spokeswoman.

"Our report goes to the government, and they then decided when or if to make the report public."

Melanie Carkner, a spokeswoman for Fisheries and Oceans Canada, said in an email to The Canadian Press the department wouldn't be commenting or providing interviews until the report was tabled.

But Ernie Crey, an adviser to the Sto:lo Tribal Council, said he's disappointed because the commission was a public and a judicial inquiry, noting he doesn't know why the report wouldn't be made public and provided to participants at the same time it goes to the government.

"There's no justification for them getting the report on Monday and excluding the public and the participants from having copies of that report," he said. "I can't think of a single reason that they could come up with to justify that."

Government is not in a position to change the report, he said.

"It's up to them to explain why they want to sit on it," he said.

The federal government called the The Commission of Inquiry into the Decline of Sockeye Salmon in the Fraser River and appointed Cohen as commissioner in November 2009.

Just months earlier, about 10 million salmon were expected to return to B.C.'s rivers and streams, but only between 10 to 15 per cent of the fish actually showed up.

At the time, the federal government set a May 1, 2011 deadline for Cohen to submit his final report.

The inquiry began in August 2010 and ended in December 2011. It heard from 160 witnesses and compiled 14,000 pages of transcripts and 2,100 exhibits.

Deadlines were extended to June 30, 2012, Sept. 30, 2012, and then Oct. 29, 2010.

The commission said on its website Cohen had requested the final extension to complete the writing, translation, and production of the report,

The report must be submitted in both official languages.

The proceedings cost about \$26.4 million over three years, Shore said.

<http://www.theprovince.com/news/fraser-valley/Deadline+looms+report+into+Fraser+Valley+sockeye+salmon/7454873/story.html>

The Vancouver Sun, 26 October 2012

Opinion: Salmon inquiry spawns opportunity

Jeffery Young



A male sockeye shows its full spawning colours — red body and green head. The more we learn about salmon, the more we realize how important they are to us.

After multiple extensions, Justice Bruce Cohen is submitting his report for the Federal Judicial Inquiry into the Decline of Sockeye Salmon in the Fraser River to the government on Monday. Despite the delays, the timing is fitting, with the last of the sockeye salmon from the Fraser watershed in the midst of spawning after completing their difficult migration from the vast Pacific Ocean to the streams and lakes of their birth across the Fraser watershed.

And despite the urgency of the problem - at least seven stocks are severely depleted, some to the point of threatened or endangered status - it's probably a good thing that Justice Cohen took the extra time. Many people and communities depend on salmon, and most of them would argue that it's high time for an overhaul of our management practices. A federal inquiry is expensive, but getting to the bottom of these issues and then having the government follow through with implementing the recommendations is worth it.

Pacific salmon really are an icon of the West Coast of Canada. A good friend of mine aptly suggested that Pacific salmon are to British Columbia as language is to Quebec. The well-being of salmon is very much aligned with the cultural, economic, social and environmental well-being of this province. This was also the first time a full federal judicial inquiry was called into the management of our salmon; this is important.

Justice Cohen called more than 100 witnesses, filed more than 2,000 exhibits and received over 1,000 public submissions. These numbers in themselves are evidence of the importance of salmon. They also reveal that the decline of salmon isn't really an issue with salmon at all, but rather, with us.

The most startling and noteworthy evidence was related to political influence within Fisheries and Oceans Canada- from hiding revelations of a foreign disease from fish farms found in wild salmon to the muzzling of a scientist whose results weren't favourable to industry. The inquiry revealed that the most basic monitoring needs, like counting the number of fish in the water before we begin fishing, or on the spawning grounds to make sure enough are allowed to reproduce, have declined to a point where we are practically flying blind. That despite having the most advanced wild salmon policy in the world - a policy that Canada unfortunately was not applying. Enforcement of the Fisheries Act, which is there to protect fish habitat, has been gutted while environmental laws themselves have been weakened through the recent federal omnibus budget bills (C-38 and C-45). Meanwhile, investments in promoting the very industries the government is charged with regulating have grown.

Justice Cohen will summarize this information, make his recommendations and move on. The government will be left with some important choices: Will it restore the most basic monitoring and enforcement capacity? Will it let its scientists talk again so we can have an open discussion about issues ranging from disease and parasite impacts from open net-cage salmon farms to protecting lakes and streams from pipelines and mines? Will it implement its own Wild Salmon Policy? Will it restore transparency in decision-making and ensure scientific evidence is the basis of those decisions? Will it work in partnership with First Nations, fishermen and conservation groups to restore salmon for everyone's benefit?

All this gives us and the government plenty to consider as the sockeye salmon of the Fraser River, bright red among the golden autumn leaves, finish spawning and beat their tails for the last time.

Jeffery Young is a biologist at The David Suzuki Foundation.

<http://www.vancouversun.com/Opinion+Salmon+inquiry+spawns+opportunity/7453421/story.html>

CTV, 26 October 2012

Salmon Stocks Declining

The "King of Fish" has virtually disappeared from a river where it once flourished. The number of Wild Atlantic Salmon could be counted on one hand this year with just one finger.

Jonathan Carr visits the St. George Fish Ladder every day. The ladder provides an accurate count of Wild Salmon swimming up the Magadavic River. He says this year the pen where salmon are temporarily held has been empty every day but one.

"One fish. It can't get much worse than that," says Carr.



It is the lowest return ever seen on this river. Generations ago, thousands of wild salmon would return annually. Even more recently salmon flourished here.

"This is the sixth largest river in New Brunswick and historically back in the 1980's, it wouldn't be uncommon to see a thousand fish returning to the river, one thousand wild atlantic salmon," reports Carr.

The Atlantic Salmon Federation believes the disappearance is linked to factors including aquaculture, global warming, pesticide run off, and predators like seals.

"The decline of the Wild Atlantic Salmon has been well documented, especially in rivers that flow into the Bay of Fundy, but this year, there are also signs of decline in normally strong rivers," says Federation President Bill Taylor.

Salmon returns on the St. John and Nashwaak rivers also fell to historic lows and a reduced return was experienced on the Miramichi. The health of salmon stocks varies from region to region, even river to river.

"The Bay of Fundy rivers in Nova Scotia are suffering the same declines as the Bay of Fundy rivers in New Brunswick. Generally speaking, rivers in Cape Breton like the Margaree, Cheticamp, Middle River, the Northumberland Strait rivers around Antigonish and New Glasgow are pretty healthy," states Taylor.

In some rivers, the species is barely hanging on. In the meantime, many hope re-stocking the Magadavic will prevent the "King of Fish" from disappearing for good.

With files from CTV's Mike Cameron

<http://atlantic.ctvnews.ca/salmon-stocks-declining-1.1012470>

For Argyll, 26 October 2012

Council investigation follows sickness outbreak in all staff in Argyll fish farm processing

All 37 staff working in the fish processing section of the Scottish Sea Farms' site at South Shian in Loch Creran, north of the Connel Bridge near Oban, have been experiencing flu-like symptoms with severe vomiting, coughing and 'tight' chests in an illness which seems to have a duration of around three weeks.

Argyll and Bute Council has sent in inspectors to try to identify the source of the outbreak but so far there is no indication of cause.

The concern is that the cause might be connected with the toxic chemicals used to protect the farmed salmon against disease and prevalent infestations with sea lice; and to disinfect and anti-foul the salmon cages.

Doctors are said to have informed the fish farm that this may be a public health issue.

Management at the fish farm are said to have told the workers that their illness is due only to smoking at work. If this were so, it would have to be at a level where all staff were chain smoking as they worked, in the ridiculous scenario of an informal fish smoking process.

Such an attempt to avert concern adds insult to illness marked by its universality amongst the workforce.

Staff waked out of the plant on 11th October after being told that any feeling unwell were free to go.

The Council has said that Environmental Health officers have conducted water sampling, which has revealed nothing; that an audit of company procedures has shown no deficit; and that medical examinations of the sick staff have found no common cause.

<http://forargyll.com/2012/10/council-investigation-follows-sickness-outbreak-in-all-staff-in-argyll-fish-farm-processing/>

Fish Update, 26 October 2012

Statement from Scottish Sea Farms

Published: 26 October, 2012



A Scottish Sea Farms spokesperson said:

"On 11th October 2012, 20 of 40 staff reported for work and made management aware of symptoms of cold/flu. These members of staff were sent home with instructions to consult their GPs. Scottish Sea Farms immediately launched an investigation which included requesting a site visit from the local Environmental Health officer.

"Following a full internal investigation and an inspection by Environmental Health, no source for the illness was identified; all chemicals used for cleaning the plant were confirmed to be at acceptable and normal standards. Environmental Health officers were comfortable for processing to continue and saw no need for any further investigation.

"Occupational health nurses carried out health assessments on members of staff as they returned to work, with lung function tests showing as normal or unchanged (from previous company medical tests). The members of staff that were ill returned to work over the course of the next few days and processing operations continued as normal.

"Scottish Sea Farms takes its responsibility as an employer and a food producer extremely seriously and would immediately stop operations if it felt that there was any risk to staff welfare or food safety."

http://www.fishupdate.com/news/fullstory.php/aid/18450/Statement_from_Scottish_Sea_Farms.html

Green Around the Gills, 26 October 2012

Marine Harvest's Salmonopoly Loss - Q3 \$\$\$\$\$s drop 86%!



[Marine Harvest's billionaire owner John Fredriksen - worth [\\$11.3 billion](#)]

Marine Harvest, the world's #1 salmon farming company, today (26 October) [reported](#) shocking Q3 2012 financial results. Marine Harvest's operational EBIT was down from NOK 457 million in Q3 2011 to NOK 73 million in Q3 2012 - that's a drop of NOK 384 million!

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Results impacted by weak prices in the quarter - Investing in feed capacity

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(Oslo, 26 October 2012) The Marine Harvest Group achieved an operational EBIT of NOK 73 million in the third quarter of 2012, compared to NOK 457 million in the corresponding quarter of 2011. The results were impacted by weak market prices and a lower benefit from sales contracts compared to previous quarters. Cash flow from operations was NOK 237 million in the quarter (Q3 2011: 269 million).

Marine Harvest's Chief Financial Officer [revealed](#) that Marine Harvest's debt was NOK 5 billion!!!

Net interest-bearing debt (NIBD)

Marine Harvest Group NOK million	30.09.2012	30.06.2012	31.12.2011
Non-current interest-bearing debt	4 958	5 223	6 589
Current interest-bearing debt	319	268	157
Total interest-bearing debt	5 275	5 491	6 746
Cash and cash equivalents	270	314	279
Net interest-bearing debt	5 005	5 177	6 467
Debt distribution ¹⁾ :			
EUR	80%	78%	92%
USD	15%	14%	6%
GBP	2%	5%	0%
Other currencies	3%	3%	2%

Currency effect on debt in Q3 is NOK 130 million.

¹⁾ Debt distribution including effect of cross currency swaps.

If Marine Harvest was playing Monopoly all their properties would be mortgaged to the hilt.



Problems were reported in Norway, Ireland, Scotland and Canada where the parasite *Kudoa* is killing Marine Harvest's profits (read more via "[Marine Harvest Bugged by Flesh-Eating Parasite](#)").

Operational EBIT in the period was affected by exceptional items including exceptional lice mitigation costs and mortality in Norway, mortality in Scotland and Ireland, algae bloom and Kudoa claims and discard costs in Canada. Total costs related to exceptional items included in the operational EBIT in the third quarter amounted to NOK 75 million.

Salmon of Canadian origin did not achieve prices above the reference in the third quarter due to the effects of soft flesh (Kudoa) contributing to claims and reduced selling prices. The Canadian price achievement has improved in relative terms compared to last year, and Kudoa effects are expected to be limited going forward.

In Scotland and Ireland, Marine Harvest suffered losses from Amoebic Gill Disease (AGD):

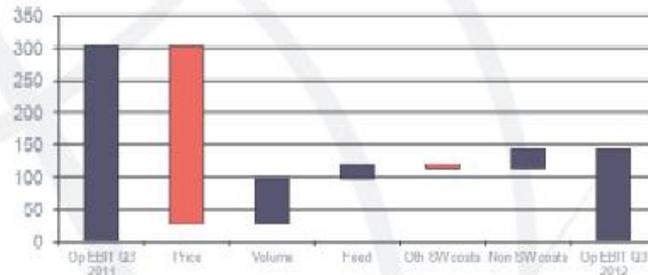
Amoebic Gill Disease (AGD): High presence of a microscopic amoeba named *Neoparamoeba perurans*, has caused Amoebic Gill Disease, elevated mortality and reduced performance at several farms in Scotland and Ireland in the period. The amoeba is free living and the densities of amoeba and the response in the gills of the fish are significantly influenced by water temperature and water salinity. Accelerated harvest has been initiated at some sites due to the observed gill damage. As the amoeba only can thrive in salt water, fresh water is used as the predominant source of treatment. Reduced sea water temperatures and good treatment practices will reduce the challenge in the coming two quarters.

Read Marine Harvest's Q3 2012 report in full [online here](#)

"It's tough to keep sea lice under control in Norway," explained Marine Harvest's CEO. "There's lots of chemical treatments."

SALMON OF NORWEGIAN ORIGIN		
	Q3 2012	Q3 2011
Operating EBIT	145	304
Harvest volume	58 481	47 569
Operational EBIT per kg	2.47	6.39
- of which Markets	0.92	0.22
- of which VAP	-0.01	0.42
Exceptional items incl in op. EBIT	-44	-63
Exceptional items per kg	-0.76	-1.32
Price achievement/reference price	106%	116%
Contract coverage	41%	50%
Superior share	93%	94%

Operational EBIT Norwegian Origin Q3 2011 vs Q3 2012



- 23% volume increase sold with low realised prices
 - Low spot price environment and limited support from sales contracts vs. previous quarters
- Good cost position in the quarter
- Exceptional costs of NOK 44 million (NOK 0.76 per kg)
 - Sea lice mitigation costs NOK41m
 - Exceptional mortality of NOK 4m in relation to sea lice treatment

"Something hits in Scotland," explained Marine Harvest's CEO. "This time it's Amoebic Gill Disease. This amoeba is not active when the temperature is cold. We see it has an effect. We are on top of the situation and learning. There's uncertainty. We are much better prepared for next summer than when it hit this summer."

"Canada is challenging," conceded Marine Harvest's CEO as he detailed continued losses due to the parasite kudoa.

"We lost 25 million in Chile," explained Marine Harvest's CEO. "We are in a special situation in Chile. We are going to protect our sites whatever it takes. The cost is increasing in Chile. Remember that in this operation we have the best sites compared to other companies but still we are impacted."

"This gill amoeba which is impacting our Scottish farms is also affecting our Irish operations," admitted Marine Harvest's CEO.

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

BBC Radio Scotland, 26 October 2012

Marine Harvest fails to consult with locals over Isle of Skye expansion plans



Listen online via: http://www.bbc.co.uk/radioscotland/news/rs_inverness_bulletin/ (starts at 1 min 42 secs)

The Courier-Islander, 26 October 2012

2-star rating a first in BC

Marine Harvest Canada (MHC), British Columbia's largest salmon aquaculture company, issued a press release saying its feed supplier, Skretting North America, has achieved certification under the Global Aquaculture Alliance, Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP) Feed Mill Standard for its Vancouver operation.

In June, MHC announced the certification of its salmon farm sites to BAP standards. The addition of BAP certified salmon feed gives MHC what it says is a coveted 'two star' rating - a first in BC.

The certification announcement is what the company said is an important step in the company's progress towards achieving a full "four star rating" from BAP, which will include certification of all its salmon farms, processing plants, feed suppliers and freshwater hatcheries.

Chris Beattie, General Manager of Skretting North America said the BAP certification is further recognition of Skretting's commitment to sustainability. In the past two years Skretting says it has introduced sustainable raw material sourcing policies, a global CO2 reduction target in addition to on-going programs addressing areas of sustainability such as how to further reduce use of fish oil.

For more information on the Skretting announcement you can visit www.skretting.ca.

"Right now, we are providing our customers with a continuous supply of BAP certified salmon," says Clare Backman, Sustainable Programs Director at MHC. "We are delighted that our feed supplier has also achieved BAP certification, as this is a key element of sustainable production that will be welcomed by our valued customers."

<http://www.canada.com/star+rating+first/7450956/story.html>

The Hindu Business Line, 26 October 2012

Japan to ban expansion of bluefin tuna farms

Tokyo - Japan will ban the expansion of bluefin tuna farms across the country as part of efforts to prevent overfishing, Fisheries Minister Akira Gunji said today.

Gunji told reporters here that the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries would soon notify prefectural governments of the new policy.

The policy is intended to protect immature tuna from being over-hunted for farming.

In June, the ministry asked prefectural governments not to allow fishing farms to expand their tuna-farming facilities.

But as the request was not honoured in some prefectures, the Ministry has decided to change it to a binding instruction based on the 1949 fishery law, the ministry said.

There were 137 bluefin tuna farms across the country as of the end of 2011, officials said.

The bluefin tuna is one of the most popular sushi ingredients in Japan, the world's biggest consumer of the fish.

Gunji said Japan needs to make clear its intention to "seriously deal with (marine) resources management," noting that the international community has started taking a harsh view of Japan's massive tuna consumption.

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/international/japan-to-ban-expansion-of-bluefin-tuna-farms/article4034539.ece>

ABC News, 26 October 2012

Fish farms to pilot new environmental performance standards

By Tony Briscoe



Tending a fish farm in Macquarie Harbour

Tasmanian salmon company Tassal will undertake a pilot program to test new international performance standards on its farms in Macquarie Harbour.

The standards come under the Aquaculture Stewardship Council and were initiated by the World Wildlife Fund.

The standards are initiated and coordinated by the World Wildlife Fund.

Chief Sustainability Officer for Tassal Linda Sams says there are some areas where the company will be looking to improve its standards.

Listen online via: <http://www.abc.net.au/rural/tas/content/2012/10/s3619415.htm?site=hobart>

Marlborough Express, 26 October 2012

King Salmon seeks consent for work

Cathie Bell

NZ King Salmon applied for a resource consent last week to cut up part of a salmon farm pontoon on a riverbank near Havelock.

The company had laid up the pontoons and cages from a salmon farm on Twidles Island three weeks ago. The structure was swept into the main channel at Havelock in a flood two weekends ago.

King Salmon said at the time that it did not need resource consent for the removal work, but last week it applied to the Marlborough District Council for consent.

King Salmon aquaculture manager Mark Preece said this week the work had been finished and all the pontoons had been cut up.

He confirmed that the company had applied retrospectively for consent. "We were planning on a worst-case scenario. We didn't actually require one."

The application says King Salmon retired two steel farm pens from its Waihinau Bay site, and they had been towed to Twidles Island in early October, to land owned by Kyle Dairy.

The company had permission from the Department of Conservation to do the work, and had contacted the Marlborough District Council.

"Although the council has previously advised that no resource consent is necessary to deconstruct the pens on the Kyle property, given these recent events, King Salmon makes this application out of abundance of caution," the application says.

The pens would be partially deconstructed in the river next to the Kyle property. The pieces would then be brought across an area of foreshore reserve administered by DOC and further cut up on the Kyle property. The pieces would be sold as scrap metal.

Council resource management officer Peter Johnson said the resource consent effectively sought to validate what had already been done. "This still serves a purpose in that council can ensure, through consent conditions, that any bare soil is oversown with grass and the site is otherwise tidied up, as proposed in the application."

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/marlborough-express/news/7868322/King-Salmon-seeks-consent-for-work>

Simon Fraser University, 25 October 2012



Sterling Prize winners Richard Routledge and Alexandra Morton

Fish researchers net Sterling prize

SFU fish statistician [Rick Routledge](#) and independent biologist [Alexandra Morton](#) have won the university's [Nora and Ted Sterling Prize in Support of Controversy](#) for their research documenting potential threats to B.C.'s wild salmon from coastal fish farms.

The pair received their prize during an evening ceremony Oct. 24 at SFU's Morris J Wosk Centre for Dialogue before delivering their Sterling lecture, *Salmon Farms and Disease: The Importance of Both Academic Freedom and Community-Engaged Research*.

The Sterling award honours work that provokes and/or contributes to the understanding of controversy, but the two researchers say the recognition does nothing to mitigate the damage caused by the debate surrounding fish farms.

"The controversy has been very counterproductive," says Routledge, who coastal fish farmers have labeled an activist.

"It has delayed vitally important regulatory changes that are needed if we are to reduce the currently unacceptable risks to the preservation of abundant runs of wild Pacific salmon."

Morton agrees, but notes government and industry ridicule of their research has had an ironic impact on public support.

"What they don't understand is the more we get attacked the higher our credibility rises," says Morton.

"I simply remain dedicated to using science to measure and define the impact of farm-salmon pathogens on wild salmon. My observations suggest the impact is very serious and government is afraid to do anything about it."

The duo have been alternately vilified, lauded and dismissed since they first teamed up in the early 2000s when they linked sea-lice infested Broughton Archipelago fish farms to passing juvenile wild salmon deaths and declining salmon runs.

Since then other researchers have corroborated their research and extended their findings.

Most recently, Routledge and Morton incurred fish farmers' wrath when they announced they'd discovered infectious salmon anemia, a viral disease affecting farm-raised Atlantic salmon, in wild salmon in Rivers Inlet.

<http://www.sfu.ca/sfunews/stories/2012/fish-researchers-net-sterling-prize.html>

The Oban Times, 25 October 2012



Mystery illness strikes Argyll fish processing plant

AN INVESTIGATION is continuing into the cause of a sickness which saw staff in the processing plant of a west coast fish farm walk out over fears for their health.

Coughing and vomiting

Staff at Scottish Sea Farms' site near Benderloch left their posts on October 11 after feeling ill, coughing and vomiting.

One Scottish Sea Farms employee, who did not wish to be named, said the sickness had been ongoing for 'two to three' weeks.

The staff member has worked

at the South Shian site, which employs 37 people in the processing area, for several years and has never experienced issues like this before.

He said: 'Everyone in the processing area is coughing, vomiting and feeling like their chest is tight. Over 20 people are feeling ill on a daily basis.'

'There is usually at least seven people off per day.'

He added: 'We thought we should talk to management, we don't want to be sick, we are all worried - we all have families and children.'

'We asked management again, they said people who have a problem can go home, people who don't have a problem can stay.'

'Most of us left, I'd say about 98 per cent of staff left and went straight to the doctor who said it could be a public health problem.'

Flu-like illness

Argyll and Bute Council said they had been told of cases of a flu-like illness involving respiratory symptoms at the site by NHS Highland's consultant in public health medicine.

A spokeswoman said: 'Investigations carried out by the company, including visits from the council's environmental health team and NHS Highland, have not identified a source.'

'Environmental health officers have examined company procedures and have not found any cause for concern.'

'Water sampling has not revealed any issues, and medical examination of the employees concerned has not highlighted anything indicating a single source.'

'The council continues to

liaise with the company.'

A Scottish Sea Farms spokeswoman said on October 11: 'A number of our employees at the South Shian site have today been sent home feeling unwell.'

'We have carried out all the necessary health and safety checks and there is nothing untoward with the working conditions at the plant.'

The company continued processing as normal during the incident and had an occupational health nurse on site 'examining the remaining members of the workforce'.

<http://www.obantimes.co.uk/>

The Daily Mail, 25 October 2012

Daily Mail, Thursday, October 25, 2012

Probe into mass sickness at fish processing plant

By **Victoria Allen**



AN investigation has begun after a mass sickness outbreak among staff at a fish farm.

All 37 staff in the processing area of the farm in Connel, near Oban, Argyll, have been struck down by severe vomiting and coughing which has lasted almost three weeks.

Employees fear they could be falling ill because of toxic chemicals used to disinfect fish cages and prevent outbreaks of fish disease.

Many staff have been allowed to temporarily leave work over concerns about their health, while Argyll and Bute Council has brought in inspectors to try to discover the cause.

A member of staff at the Scottish Sea Farms site, whose comments were reported on the Fishupdate website, said: 'Everyone in the

'We're worried - we all have families'

processing area is coughing, vomiting and feeling like their chest is tight. More than 20 people are feeling ill on a daily basis.

'We don't want to be sick, we are all worried - we all have families and children.'

Bosses apparently told workers they were ill because of smoking at work, although not all of the 37 affected staff smoke. Staff walked out on October 11 after being told those feeling ill could leave, and were told by a doctor they could be facing a public health outbreak.

The aquaculture industry, which supplies most of the fish produced north of the Border, uses poisonous chemicals to control disease in its underwater cages.

These include solutions to disinfect



Outbreak: The Connel fish farm

the cages, anti-fouling agents and drugs to treat outbreaks of sea lice and other diseases more prevalent in fish which are not swimming freely.

Argyll and Bute Council said it was aware of a flu-like illness including respiratory symptoms in some workers at the South Shian fish processing plant.

A spokesman added: 'Investigations carried out by the company, including visits from the council's environmental health team and NHS Highland, have not identified a source.'

'Environmental health officers have examined company procedures and have not found any cause for concern.'

'Water sampling has not revealed any issues, and medical examination of the employees concerned has not highlighted anything indicating a single source. The council continues to liaise with the company.'

Scottish Sea Farms said it had carried out a series of health and safety checks and found nothing wrong at the plant.

The company confirmed that an occupational health nurse is on site.

<http://donstaniford.typepad.com/files/daily-mail-25-october-2012-on-sickness-at-scottish-sea-farms.pdf>

Intrafish, 25 October 2012

Scottish Sea Farms staff walk out over sickness

An investigation into the cause is underway.

 IntraFish Media

Published: 25 October 2012 08:01 AM

Updated: 25 October 2012 10:47 AM

An investigation is underway into the cause of a sickness, which saw staff in the processing plant of a west coast of Scotland fish farm walk out over fears for their health.

Employees at Scottish Sea Farms site in Connel, United Kingdom, left their posts on Oct. 11 after feeling ill, and coughing and vomiting.

One Scottish Sea Farms employee, who did not wish to be named, said the sickness had been ongoing for "two to three" weeks.

"Most of us left, I'd say about 98 percent of staff left and went straight to the doctor who said it could be a public health problem."

Argyll and Bute Council said they had been told of cases of a flu-like illness involving respiratory symptoms at the site by NHS Highland's consultant in public health medicine.

"Investigations carried out by the company, including visits from the council's environmental health team and NHS Highland, have not identified a source," said a spokesperson.

"Environmental health officers have examined company procedures and have not found any cause for concern," she said.

Water sampling has not revealed any issues, and medical examination of the employees concerned has not highlighted anything indicating a single source.

<http://www.intrafish.com/global/news/article1357926.ece>

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

Green Around the Gills, 25 October 2012

Salmon Farming is Sickening: FDA warning for "adulterated" Scottish farmed salmon "injurious to health"

It's now official - salmon farming makes people sick! "Staff at Scottish Sea Farms site in Connel, left their posts on October 11 after feeling ill and coughing and vomiting," reports [Fish Update](#) (24 October). "One Scottish Sea Farms employee, who did not wish to be named, said the sickness had been ongoing for 'two to three' weeks."

Associated Articles

- Fall guys: EU looking for payback
 - Young's announces exit of Pinneys MD
 - Scottish fishermen attack fisheries minister
-

FISHupdate.com

Scottish Sea Farms staff walk out over sickness

Published: 24 October, 2012

AN INVESTIGATION is continuing into the cause of a sickness which saw staff in the processing plant of a west coast of Scotland fish farm walk out over fears for their health.



Staff at Scottish Sea Farms site in Connel, left their posts on October 11 after feeling ill and coughing and vomiting.

One Scottish Sea Farms employee, who did not wish to be named, said the sickness had been ongoing for 'two to three' weeks.

The staff member has worked at the South Shian site, which employs 37 people in the processing area, for several years and has never experienced issues like this before.

He said: 'Everyone in the processing area is coughing, vomiting and feeling like their chest is tight. Over 20 people are feeling ill on a daily basis.'

Read article in full via "[Scottish Sea Farms staff walk out over sickness](#)"

In March 2012, the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) [warned](#) Scottish Sea Farms following inspection failures at the same processing plant in South Shian, Connel. "Your firm's aquaculture farmed salmon appear to be adulterated, in that the products have been prepared, packed, or held under conditions whereby they may have been rendered injurious to health," warned the FDA's Division of Enforcement.



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Seafood Processing Facility - Scottish Sea Farms, Ltd.



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Food and Drug Administration
College Park, MD 20740

March 22, 2012

Mr. James Gallagher
Managing Director
Scottish Sea Farms, Ltd.
Laurel House, Laurel Hill Business Park, Polmaise Road
Stirling, Stirlingshire
FK7 9JQ Scotland, United Kingdom

Reference No.: 288277

Dear Mr. Gallagher:

We inspected your seafood processing facility, Scottish Sea Farms Ltd., located at South Shian, Connel, Argyll PA37 1SB, Scotland, United Kingdom, on September 26-27, 2011. During that inspection, we found that you had serious violations of the seafood Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) regulation, Title 21, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 123 (21 CFR 123). That inspection resulted in FDA's issuance of an FDA-483, Inspectional Observations, listing the deviations found at your firm at the conclusion of the inspection.

The FDA warning letter also included:

In accordance with 21 CFR 123.6(g), failure of a processor of fish or fishery products to have and implement a HACCP plan that complies with this section or otherwise operate in accordance with the requirements of Part 123, renders the fish or fishery products adulterated within the meaning of Section 402(a)(4) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the Act), 21 U.S.C. §342(a)(4). Accordingly, your firm's aquaculture farmed salmon appear to be adulterated, in that the products have been prepared, packed, or held under conditions whereby they may have been rendered injurious to health. At the conclusion of the inspection, the FDA investigator issued a FDA-483, Inspectional Observations, listing the deviations found at your firm.

The FDA warning letter concluded:

You should respond in writing within thirty (30) working days from your receipt of this letter. Your response should outline the specific things you are doing to correct these violations. You should include in your response documentation such as a copy of any revised HACCP plans, at least five (5) product days worth of monitoring records to demonstrate that you have implemented the revised plan and other useful information that would assist us in evaluating your corrections. If you cannot complete all corrections before the 30 days, you should explain the reason for your delay and state when you will correct any remaining violations.

This letter may not list all the deviations at your facility. You are responsible for ensuring that your processing plant operates in compliance with the Act, the Seafood HACCP regulation, and the Good Manufacturing Practice regulation (21 CFR 110). You also have a responsibility to use procedures to prevent further violations of the Act and all applicable regulations.

Please send your reply to Food and Drug Administration, Attention: Sandra Purnell, Compliance Officer, Office of Compliance, Division of Enforcement, Food Adulteration Assessment Branch HFS-607, 5100 Paint Branch Parkway, College Park, MD 20740 U.S.A. If you have any questions regarding this letter, you may contact Sandra Purnell via email at standra.purnell@fda.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

/S/

Jennifer Thomas
Division Director
Division of Enforcement
Office of Compliance
Center for Food Safety
and Applied Nutrition

Read the FDA's warning letter to Scottish Sea Farms in full [online here](#)

This is not the first time that workers have become ill in a farmed salmon processing plant in Scotland. In 1995, the Lancet [reported](#) that "within 3 months of the opening of a salmon-processing plant in the UK, some workers complained of symptoms suggestive of occupational asthma."

Occupational asthma caused by automated salmon processing

J.D Douglas MD ^a, C McSharry PhD ^b, L Blaikie BSc ^c, T Morrow BSc ^c, S Miles RGN , D Franklin FRCP ^d

Abstract

Summary

Within 3 months of the opening of a salmon-processing plant in the UK, some workers complained of symptoms suggestive of occupational asthma.

A survey of all 291 employees identified 24 (8.2%) with occupational asthma. The employees worked near machines which generated respirable aerosols containing salmon-serum proteins. The IgE response to these proteins was associated with occupational asthma ($p < 0.001$), with increasing severity of symptoms ($p < 0.001$), and with working distance from the aerosol source ($p = 0.037$). The main factor which predisposed to IgE-antibody production and asthma was cigarette smoking ($p < 0.001$), whereas atopy and a previous allergic history did not. The affected employees were reallocated to a low-exposure worksite and factory ventilation was improved. Eleven showed significant clinical and pulmonary function improvement, and continued in employment. Thirteen who still had symptoms were advised to leave, thereafter becoming symptom-free, and regaining normal respiratory function. Early recognition of symptoms and prompt action to reduce aerosol exposure avoided the long-term reduction in pulmonary functions often associated with occupational asthma.

The scientific paper - "[Occupational asthma caused by automated salmon processing](#)" - was published by a GP from the [Tweeddale Medical Practice](#) in Fort William (where the Norwegian-owned multinational [Marine Harvest](#) have a processing plant).

Read article in full via: <http://donstaniford.typepad.com/my-blog/2012/10/salmon-farming-is-sickening-vomiting-in-scotland-leads-to-staff-walkout-.html>

Scottish Wildlife Trust, 25 October 2012

We must protect Scotland's seas

The Scottish Wildlife Trust has repeated its calls for stricter controls on fish farming. The Aquaculture & Fisheries Bill is an opportunity to bring about change that would see improved management of Scotland's waters. By taking care of our waters this Bill will reduce some of the threats to Scotland's precious environment.

The Trust's call comes as The Scottish Parliament's Rural Affairs, Climate Change and Environment committee launches its call for views on the Aquaculture & Fisheries Bill, published earlier this month. The Bill includes new requirements to co-ordinate fish farm

management, technical standards for farm equipment to prevent escapes and sampling to trace the origin of escapes.

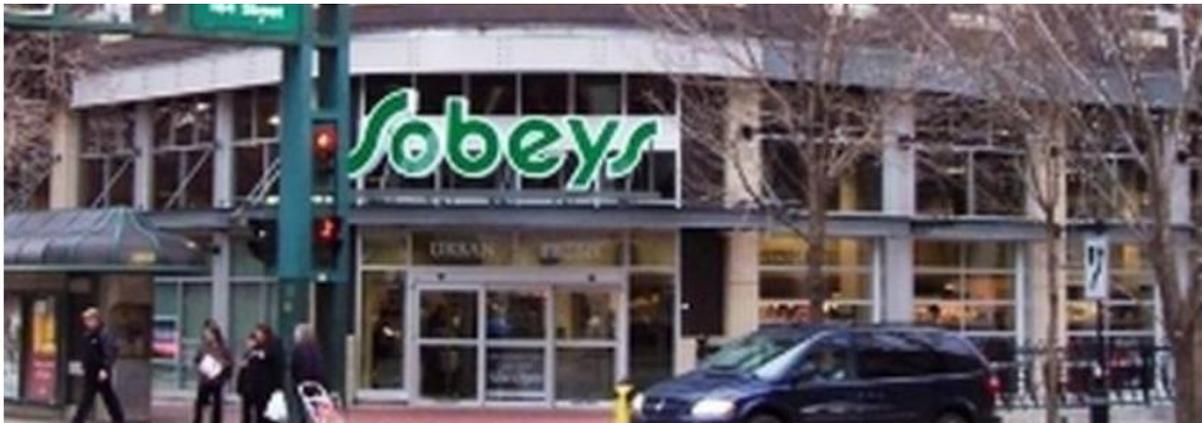
The Trust will be responding to the committee, presenting the case for controls that ensure we have healthy seas and rivers long into the future.

Scottish Wildlife Trust Living Seas Policy Officer Alex Kinninmonth said:

"Scotland's coastal waters are home to fabulous wildlife including seals and basking sharks and are vital areas for migrating salmon. Coastal economies rely heavily on that mix of clean waters and biodiversity and so it's of paramount importance that environmentally damaging activities are appropriately controlled."

<http://scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk/news/aquaculture-bill-is-a-chance-to-protect-scotlands-seas/>

Intrafish, 25 October 2012



Sobeys to Canadians: Sea lice case nothing to worry about

Removal of salmon 'completely unnecessary.'

 IntraFish Media

Published: 25 October 2012 01:19 PM

Updated: 25 October 2012 02:03 PM

Associated Articles

Supermarket chain Sobeys is reassuring Canadian consumers the sea lice found on Atlantic salmon in some of its stores is nothing to worry about, according to Canadian media reports.

Sobeys discovered sea lice on about a dozen whole Atlantic salmon on store shelves after B.C. activist and biologist Alexandra Morton posted photos of some affected fish on *Facebook* and launched a campaign against the sale of the fish.

The chain has temporarily removed 84 whole, farmed salmon and is currently reviewing quality control with the supplier. The source of the fish has not been identified.

"We're currently reviewing all the related quality-control issues with the wholesaler and expect to have whole Atlantic salmon back on the shelves in the not-to-distant future," Cynthia Thompson, director of communication and corporate affairs said.

Bruce Hancock, the executive director of the Aquaculture Association of Nova Scotia, said the voluntarily removal of the salmon is not nearly as alarming as it sounds.

"We have to put this in context," he said. "What they removed from the shelves were whole salmon. It amounted to slightly more than 80 fish in all their stores, so it was hardly a major recall."

Larry Hammell, a professor of aquaculture health management at the Atlantic Veterinary College in Charlottetown, says the removal was completely unnecessary and considers Morton's campaign a "scare tactic."

<http://www.intrafish.com/global/news/article1357927.ece>

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Wild Salmon First, 24 October 2012

[Will Justice Bruce Cohen Protect Wild Salmon?](#)

After a third extension, Justice Bruce Cohen is finally due to make his final report by October 29th, 2012, a report that could impact the fate of wild Pacific Sockeye salmon in B.C.

- Sobeys: Salmon removal only temporary
 - Sobeys removes Atlantic salmon from stores
 - UK retailers selling frozen fish as fresh
-



Two years ago on October 25th, 2010, Justice Cohen stated to a courtroom full of lawyers and participants;

"I remain cautiously optimistic that while principled and reasonable people may disagree on the process or the path to achieving a result, that nevertheless with a collaborative effort, answers can be found and recommendations achieved to address the concerns of everyone involved in the process."

That first day was followed by over 10 months in the 8th floor courtroom of 801 West Georgia St, going through reports and testimony from expert witnesses, DFO staff, Ministry of the Environment, First Nations and NGO's.

Now, two years later and [14 000 pages of transcripts later](#), the question of what might emerge from the \$26 million dollar inquiry has yet to be answered. With [21 participants](#) in the inquiry, there will be no shortage of people interested in what Justice Cohen has to say in the final week of October 2012.

While some are cautiously optimistic, others, such as Aquaculture Coalition participant Alexandra Morton, [don't intend to wait around](#) in hope that anything is going to change after Justice Cohen makes his report to an [anti- environment Prime Minister](#) who has already gutted the Fisheries Act and [endorsed the very industry](#) that is devastating wild salmon stocks globally.

In an [article by the Canadian Press](#) two year ago, Sto:lo First Nation fisheries adviser Ernie Crey stated; *"What I'm looking for in the end is a final report that tells us the fate of last year's sockeye salmon run. Why did it collapse so dramatically? Because if we fail to identify the cause or causes, chances are it'll be repeated in a future year."* **After a third extension**, Justice Bruce Cohen is finally due to make his final report by October 29th, 2012, a report

that could impact the fate of wild Pacific Sockeye salmon in B.C.



Ernie Crey, Sto:lo First Nation Fishery Adviser

.....If nothing else, the Cohen Commission succeeded in one thing; it has clearly shown that government has been compromising wild salmon to death and that the DFO is in place not to protect wild fish but to protect the economic proceeds derived from the fish and oceans. If wild salmon are to have a chance of surviving into the future they must be prioritized before open-net salmon farming, oil pipelines, and mass industrial practices that destroy salmon habitat. In short, wild salmon must come first.

Read article in full via: <http://coheninquirynotes.blogspot.com.es/2012/10/will-justice-bruce-cohen-protect-wild.html#!/2012/10/will-justice-bruce-cohen-protect-wild.html>

The Common Sense Canadian, 24 October 2012

Alexandra Morton Receives Two Academic Honours, Forces Farmed Salmon Recall

Written by [Damien Gillis](#)



Alexandra Morton and SFU Prof. Rick Routledge are being honoured with this year's Sterling Prize (photo: SalmonAreSacred.org)

It's been a busy couple of weeks for salmon biologist and anti-fish farm activist Alexandra Morton. In between receiving two prestigious academic honours on opposite sides of the country, she found the time to drop by a few Sobeys grocery stores in Halifax, discover clumps of sea lice on the farmed salmon they were selling and create a national media story that prompted the retailer to yank all the whole farmed salmon from their maritime stores. All in a week's work for the indefatigable defender of wild salmon.

In Halifax, Morton was honoured last week with the invitation to deliver the annual [Ransom A. Myers Lecture in Science and Society](#) - named for the late DFO scientist who predicted the collapse of the east coast cod and resigned from the department when his bosses attempted to silence him. Each year the university invites one similarly talented and independent minded scientist to speak to their issue of concern. Morton's presentation on the discovery of several catastrophic viruses in BC's farmed and wild salmon was delivered to a packed house of 400 academics and produced the only standing ovation in the history of the five year program.

Morton and her small team of research assistants made use of their trip to the east coast to meet with biologists, conservation groups and fishermen to learn about the impacts of the open net pen salmon farming industry on their marine environment. She spoke with a number of lobster fishermen, for instance, who have had to abandon their livelihoods due to the crash in their fishery which they connect to the arrival of salmon aquaculture operations. Chemicals used to treat sea lice on the farmed fish are also lethal to shellfish, while fish farm waste covers up the lobsters' vital seafloor habitat.

Morton also popped into a few Sobeys grocery stores and purchased a couple dozen fish to inspect for microscopic diseases. But it was the larger sea lice that immediately caught her attention - several fish were covered with the parasite. Soon after a colleague posted a picture of the lice on facebook, the [media caught wind of the story](#), prompting the grocery chain to pull all whole farmed salmon from its east coast stores. The company said monday that it was in the process of updating its handling procedures for the product to ensure this embarrassing incident doesn't repeat itself.

Meanwhile, back in Vancouver, Morton and her colleague, SFU professor Rick Routledge, will be receiving the [Sterling Prize in Support of Controversy](#) from SFU tonight. The award, as its title implies, was founded in 1993 "to honour and encourage work that provokes and/or contributes to the understanding of controversy." According to SFU's website for the honour, "The Sterling Prize is awarded annually to a recipient whose work presents new ways of looking at the world, ways that are daring and creative."

Morton and Routledge, who together first [discovered the lethal ISA virus](#) in wild BC salmon last year, will deliver a joint talk at the award ceremony, titled "Salmon Farms and Disease: The Importance of Both Academic Freedom and Community-Engaged Research." The event takes place tonight, Wednesday October 24th, at the Morris J Wosk Centre for dialogue, 580 West Hastings Street. Attendance is free but [online registration is required in advance](#).

Morton's research has been generating controversy for quite some time, but at these honours and others she's collected in recent years (including an honorary doctorate from SFU)

indicate, her work is being taken more and more seriously by established academia - and now even some major farmed salmon retailers to boot.

<http://www.thecanadian.org/item/1782-alexandra-morton-academic-honours-forces-farmed-salmon-recall-sobeys-damien-gillis>

Intrafish, 24 October 2012

Marine Harvest Canada gets BAP two star rating

Skretting North America's certification brings MHC's operations to new level of third party verification.

IntraFish Media

Published: 24 October 2012 05:20 PM

Updated: 25 October 2012 02:34 AM

Marine Harvest Canada (MHC) – the largest salmon aquaculture company in British Columbia, Canada – has received a two star rating from the Global Aquaculture Alliance's Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP), a first in British Columbia.

The achievement is the culmination of certifications at multiple levels of the production chain. The final step was the certification of its feed supplier -- Skretting North America -- which recently received the BAP Feed Mill

Standard certification for its Vancouver operation. In June, MHC announced the certification of its salmon farm sites to BAP standards.

In the past 2 years Skretting has introduced sustainable raw material sourcing policies, a global CO2 reduction target, and on-going programs addressing areas of sustainability such as how to further reduce use of fish oil.

"Right now, we are providing our customers with a continuous supply of BAP certified salmon," says Clare Backman, sustainable programs director at MHC. "We are delighted that our feed supplier has also achieved BAP certification, as this is a key element of sustainable production that will be welcomed by our valued customers."

<http://www.intrafish.com/global/news/article1357905.ece>

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Fish Update, 24 October 2012

Scottish Sea Farms staff walk out over sickness



AN INVESTIGATION is continuing into the cause of a sickness which saw staff in the processing plant of a west coast of Scotland fish farm walk out over fears for their health.

Staff at Scottish Sea Farms site in Connel, left their posts on October 11 after feeling ill and coughing and vomiting.

One Scottish Sea Farms employee, who did not wish to be named, said the sickness had been ongoing for 'two to three' weeks.

The staff member has worked at the South Shian site, which employs 37 people in the processing area, for several years and has never experienced issues like this before.

He said: 'Everyone in the processing area is coughing, vomiting and feeling like their chest is tight. Over 20 people are feeling ill on a daily basis.'

'There is usually at least seven people off per day. We tried to talk to bosses but were told it is because people smoke but some of the people getting ill don't smoke.'

The employee, who was so worried about the situation he couldn't sleep, feared it could be chemicals making staff ill.

He added: 'We thought we should talk to management, we don't want to be sick, we are all worried – we all have families and children.'

'We asked management again, they said people who have a problem can go home, people who don't have a problem can stay.'

'Most of us left, I'd say about 98 per cent of staff left and went straight to the doctor who said it could be a public health problem.'

Argyll and Bute Council said they had been told of cases of a flu-like illness involving respiratory symptoms at the site by NHS Highland's consultant in public health medicine.

A spokeswoman said: 'Investigations carried out by the company, including visits from the council's environmental health team and NHS Highland, have not identified a source.'

'Environmental health officers have examined company procedures and have not found any cause for concern.'

'Water sampling has not revealed any issues, and medical examination of the employees concerned has not highlighted anything indicating a single source.'

'The council continues to liaise with the company.'

A Scottish Sea Farms spokeswoman said at the time of the incident: 'A number of our employees at the South Shian site have today been sent home feeling unwell.'

'We have carried out all the necessary health and safety checks and there is nothing untoward with the working conditions at the plant.'

The company continued processing as normal during the incident and had an occupational health nurse on site examining the remaining members of the workforce.

http://www.fishupdate.com/news/fullstory.php/aid/18426/Scottish_Sea_Farms_staff_walk_out_over_sickness.html

West Cork Times, 24 October 2012

Anti-salmon farm campaigners call for Dáil support



The proposed location of the salmon farm. Pic: Google

EVERY politician in Dáil Eireann is about to be very aware of the objections to plans for a new salmon farm in Bantry Bay.

The Save Bantry Bay (SBB) committee have, this week, contact all 166 TDs in an effort to outline their opposition to the proposed licensing of Marine Harvest Ireland's plans to create a 14 cage salmon farm off Shot Head in Bantry Bay.

“We are calling on all our TDs, all 166 of them, to look to the future. For a handful of jobs now, we will all pay for the damage this will cause to Bantry Bay and we will see hundreds of jobs lost in the years ahead,” SBB chairman Kieran McCarthy.

Marine Harvest Ireland, the company that has applied for the salmon farm licence, already farms 14 salmon cages at Roancarrig in Bantry Bay.

The cages, housing up to 40,000 salmon each, are overseen by 40 employees.

These comprise of office workers in Castletownbere and operatives who work in the bay maintaining the cages and harvesting the salmon.

Marine Harvest plans to invest €3.5 million in the project, which includes the creation of six long-term jobs during the farm set-up.

However, the SBB claim that Marine Harvest's plans will have a huge impact on local sea-life and the livelihoods of all those dependent on Bantry Bay's fishing and tourism industry.

Kieran McCarthy also said that any decision to grant another salmon farming licence for Bantry Bay will have repercussions not only for the southwest but also for the future of small inshore fishermen and rural coast communities nationwide.

“The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIS) completed by Marine Harvest as part of the licence application has failed to meet standards set by the EU EIA Directive. “Their EIS fails to assess the ability of the immediate area to flush waste; the document failed to consult a single living resident in the parish (only one person was written to and he died 10 years ago).

“The document also fails to acknowledge the Dromogowlane River, only 500m away and home to protected species that will be affected and the Marine Harvest EIS fails to consider alternative technologies such as the non-polluting closed containment systems or to consider alternative sites,” said Kieran McCarthy.

A spokesperson for Marine Harvest, speaking to *West Cork Times* said that continued good environmental conditions in Bantry Bay are their top priority.

“There has been salmon farming in Bantry Bay since the 1970s, when local fishery interests first established the Roancarrig Salmon Farm, now operated by Marine Harvest Ireland (MHI).

“Over the last 40 years, Salmon Farming has become an integrated part of the local community in the region and MHI has carried out its business with the greatest respect for the local environment and community.

“Marine Harvest is committed to maintaining its reputation as a good corporate neighbour, a reputation that it also enjoys in County Mayo at its Clare Island site and in Donegal at its Kindrum site.

“In pursuit of this policy, MHI engaged with a variety of community stakeholders in advance of their application, they invited a member of the committee opposing its plans to visit its Bantry Bay facilities and the Shot Head site but this invitation has yet to be taken up.

“The company has also briefed local politicians and extends this invitation to any politician who has any questions on this application or any aspect of the company’s operations in Ireland.

“Successful salmon farming, especially organic salmon, as proposed for Shot Head, is dependent on a clean and healthy environment no-one understands this more than Marine Harvest Ireland which was the first primary food producer in Ireland to be certified under ISO 14001:1996 (International Environmental Standard),” the spokesperson said.

<http://westcorktimes.com/home/?p=13011>

Irish Times, 24 October 2012

Clare salmon farm plan draws interest from 17 firms

GORDON DEEGAN

BORD IASCAIGH Mhara (BIM) says it has received 17 expressions of interest from firms to operate its planned €40 million organic salmon farm off the Co Clare coast.

Head of aquaculture development at BIM, Donal Maguire, said many of the expressions of interest in what will be Ireland's largest organic salmon farm are from international firms, including some from Norway. "There is big interest in being the tenant for the project," he said.

Located on two sites off the smallest of the Aran Islands, Inis Óirr, the project will have the capacity to produce 15,000 tonnes of organic salmon each year – representing a doubling of the country's current production.

BIM's Deep Sea Project will employ 350 directly and a further 150 indirectly, and provide €100 million in exports annually.

The wages from the jobs – to include posts for managers, biologist, skippers, deckhands, farm operatives, commercial divers, marine engineers and fish processing personnel – will generate €14.5 million per annum.

Mr Maguire said the project was the first of three deep-sea fish farms BIM was planning off Ireland's coast. The other two are proposed for sites off counties Mayo and Donegal.

This is the first time BIM has applied for an aquaculture licence.

BIM says that by lodging the plan itself, it will ensure further accountability to the public.

The environmental impact statement states: "There is a variety of misinformation about fish farming in the public domain which has understandably led to some unfounded fears."

Mr Maguire said if all went well with the application, there would be "fish going to sea" at the fish farm in late 2013 or early 2014.

He said a seafood shortage crisis was looming across the EU, "and we can translate that into a market opportunity".

Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine Simon Coveney recently confirmed in a written Dáil response that 528 aquaculture licence applications have been awaiting a decision for more than one year. The delay is linked to requirements that applications in "Natura 2000" areas be assessed for environmental compliance with the EU habitats/birds directives. Mr Maguire said the BIM plan would be unaffected by this. "We are fully compliant with the birds and habitats directive."

A decision on the application is due from Mr Coveney early in the new year. The public may make submissions during the current eight-week consultation period.

<http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/ireland/2012/1024/1224325627349.html>

Fish & Fly, 24 October 2012

Atlantic Salmon Trust Highlight Three Key Salmon Survival Issues

By [Atlantic Salmon Trust](#)



Atlantic Salmon smolts - a critical time for salmon survival

Melfort Campbell and Tony Andrews, the Atlantic Salmon Trust's Chairman and CEO, recently visited New Brunswick, discussing alternatives to the destructive and unsustainable open cage method of salmon farming currently used in Scotland and Canada. Details will be released soon of the outcome of their discussions.

In the meantime we can report on a conversation Tony had with Canadian local anglers and fishery owners. He was asked about the [Atlantic Salmon Trust](#)'s three most important issues to ensure the survival of the Atlantic salmon. Read on to see what he said.

“I think everyone involved in salmon management recognises the importance of each river producing the maximum possible number of naturally generated smolts. Rivers as productive smolt factories are everyone’s top priority and should remain so. In the last few years our management of the freshwater environment has improved by leaps and bounds. While I wouldn’t want to crow about it, I think we are well on the way to doing the best we can to ensure our rivers are producing optimum numbers of smolts. We mustn’t be complacent, especially with the big changes in fresh water quality and availability, temperature and habitats resulting from climate change. But I think all fishery managers understand that there are problems, and that they have to stay on the case – a relentless round of measuring, recording, and taking practical steps to deal with the problems.”

Tony explained that for AST the main issue is the extraordinarily high mortality rate of salmon at sea. “Some people say to me ‘but there’s nothing you can do about the loss of salmon at sea, so why waste precious resources chasing a problem you will never resolve?’ And I reply that there are three priorities for AST as it homes in on areas of study and action where results can be achieved.

“First we must look at the whole life of the salmon in salt water and decide where we are most likely to be able to reduce mortality. Little fish – our post smolts – are at their most vulnerable to pollution, predation, and accidental exploitation or damage by man in the days after they leave their rivers. We must get a detailed handhold on, say, the first four weeks of

the lives of post smolts and then make a list of priorities for action after risk-assessing each threat. Our number one priority is therefore to find ways of protecting very small salmon immediately after they enter salt water.

“Then we need to develop a better understanding than we now have of the routes – the migration corridors – used by post smolts to reach their marine feeding grounds. Part of that mapping, much of which has already been done, will include knowledge of the effects of climate changes in the ocean on prey species. Ken Whelan told me during the Salsea project that the ideal scenario would be to make the migration corridors into something like Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) so that smolts can be given protection from pelagic trawling at the time and place they are swimming as they migrate each year. Protecting salmon from becoming accidental by-catch is achievable, and we now need to get on with putting measures in place.

“The third priority is to go for sustainability. I know we all feel the ‘S’ word has been so over-used as to lose much of its meaning, but let me explain what I mean. There are two activities of man that, in the context of the survival of the Atlantic salmon cannot continue. The first is salmon farming as currently practised on both sides of the Atlantic which, beyond any doubt, is causing serious damage to wild salmon and sea trout in the aquaculture zones, mostly at the post smolt stage. Thank goodness that new technologies, such as recirculating close containment (RAS) and effective floating closed containment systems are now coming forward, and show promise of being commercially viable. We at AST, with our partners on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean, are giving maximum support to their development.

“We’d also urge the global salmon farming industry to do more to demonstrate that the offshore technologies they appear to be espousing will substantially reduce the risk to our wild salmon and sea trout. Thus far, we have seen claims of reduced risk, with no data to back them up. One thing is certain: the status quo, where salmon are farmed in open pens in sea lochs and fjords too close to salmon and sea trout rivers, is unsustainable and untenable.”

There was general agreement that getting salmon farming into a sustainable form was a priority for all of us. Tony then outlined his second priority under the ‘S’ heading.

“We should be thinking of our returning adult salmon as the survivors, and we should be looking after them as such. Sometimes, when I think about the 93% + rate of mortality at sea, leaving so few fish to regenerate stocks, I feel we should stop exploiting wild salmon altogether. I know that is unrealistic, but I often think along those lines. It is obvious that any form of exploitation that kills fish from unknown rivers of origin, and where the condition of stocks is largely unknown too, is reckless and unnecessary. Ivor Llewelyn, AST’s director in England and Wales, once said to me, ‘no-one has a human right to exploit a threatened species’. If we follow the logic of Ivor’s statement, and with the knowledge we now have of the genetic differences between populations, catchment and regional stocks, there really is no excuse for continuing mixed stocks exploitation, especially coastal netting.

“Those two issues, salmon farming and mixed stocks netting, are the two most intransigent problems we have in certain parts of our coastal waters. I feel sure that if both were resolved we would see more wild salmon and sea trout in our rivers within the zones affected.”

In summing up the AST’s position Tony added, “of course there are many other challenges for all of us involved in wild salmon conservation and management. You asked me what

AST's three priorities are. Put concisely, they are protecting our post smolts, reducing accidental damage to stocks and achieving sustainable exploitation and salmon farming. There are of course many other things AST is doing to improve knowledge and management of the fish, but wouldn't it be a great start if we could resolve those three priority issues, preferably tomorrow!"

<http://www.fishandfly.com/news/3246-atlantic-salmon-trust-visits-canada.html>

Fisheries Information Service, 24 October 2012



Caligus or sea lice poses concern among Chilean authorities because its incidence rose in farming centres. (Photo: UACH/ FIS)

Warnings of Caligus increase in salmon farms



CHILE

Wednesday, October 24, 2012, 04:20 (GMT + 9)

The head of the [Undersecretariat of Fisheries and Aquaculture](#) (Subpesca), Pablo Galilea, warned about the "significant" increase in Caligus in salmon companies in the country.

In addition to expressing concern about the health status of the local salmon farming, the undersecretary considered that private initiatives to modify the health regulations are "insufficient," *Diario Financiero* reported.

With regard to the parasite Caligus, which is affecting the country's farms, Galilea anticipated that the density regulations should be ready by "1 December."

"Our proposal includes the creation of a polynomial where the risk score determines the health status of the concession, and those companies with poor performance will be required to lower their densities by 40 per cent, and those with a good performance can raise theirs by 10 per cent," he stated.

In connection with the items collected from the entrepreneurs, the Undersecretary of Fisheries acknowledged that a consensus of the business sector is very difficult.

"They proposed an amendment to health regulations, where the formalities should be examined to set production levels for the next cycle. Nevertheless, we believe that this is insufficient and will not quit our idea of passing density regulations," he added.

During the audits 12 notifications of the companies affected by Caligus were made.

"What concerns us most is Caligus, which had its prelude in the crisis caused by the infectious salmon anemia (ISA), which has increased considerably," he pointed out.

When being asked if there is a dissonance between what the government considers to be a neighbourhood of "sick" salmon with the idea entrepreneurs have, Galilea said: "There are nuances. When the parameters are clear and objective, who can object to them? What happens is that there are differences that have more to do with the interests of companies about how this affects their production levels."

The undersecretary of Chile expressed interest in continuing opening markets, such as that in Brazil, and his hope that salmon prices recover within two or three years and "show a good level again." Production will increase anyway," he concluded.

In early October, the [National Fisheries and Aquaculture Service](#) (Sernapesca) presented contingency plan models in Aysen to prevent and contain the effects of any unforeseen health emergency in salmon farming.

According to the Aquaculture deputy director of this entity, German Iglesias, the models were designed with the advice of experts in biosafety and logistics and "its presentation will allow the industry to identify its gaps and to adapt biosecurity measures according to risks."

Regarding Caligus infestation, Iglesias clarified that between 2011 and 2012 there has been a modest increase in Caligus loads, while in the Aysen region the number of farms with high parasite loads has also increased.

"However, this increase is targeted and a direct relationship with increasing farmed biomass has been observed," he stressed.

Related article:

- [**Salmon industry contingency plan models presented**](#)

By Analia Murias

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<http://www.fis.com/fis/worldnews/worldnews.asp?monthyear=&day=24&id=56345&l=e&special=&ndb=1%20target=>

Read more on "La Plaga Del Salmon" [online here](#)



Cermaq plans 35% production increase

As global outlook steadies, the world's second largest salmon producer is ready to ramp up things next year.

 **Jeanine Stewart**

Published: 24 October 2012 01:18 PM

Updated: 24 October 2012 01:53 PM

Salmon farmer Cermaq plans to increase its total production next year by 35 percent, to 154,000 metric tons total.

This news may come as a disappointment to salmon farming companies hoping to see the global Atlantic salmon supply glut finally reach its end and allow prices to return to normal, but they can rest assured this is not part of a global trend.

Associated Articles

- Disease hits Cermaq's Q3 profits
- Cermaq to take big Q3 hit
- Cermaq ramps up in Chile
- Cermaq takes \$9 million hit on disease outbreaks in Q3

Data from Kontali Analyse show the supply of Atlantic salmon is poised to remain relatively steady, at 1.97 million metric tons in 2013, up only slightly from 1.94 million metric tons this year.

• Cermaq 'paid right price'

A range of factors has converged to push Cermaq's production up next year, with the acquisition of Cultivos Marinos Chiloe accounting for just one piece – or 16,000 metric tons – of that puzzle, CFO Tore Valderhaug told Intrafish.

In Norway, there will be an increase of 7,000 metric tons, from 48,000 metric tons in 2012 to an estimated 55,000 metric tons in 2013. The increase will come mostly from fish that were originally going to be harvested in Norway this year but grew more slowly than expected due to colder temperatures.

"We've been able to grow our fish to a larger size and move them into next year," Valderhaug said. "The main reason is the delayed harvest in the Finnmark region."

In Chile, production is projected to nearly double, from 44,000 metric tons this year to 84,000 metric tons next year.

In addition to the 16,000 metric ton boost from the Cultivos Marinos acquisition, the company withheld 10,000 metric tons from the market in the second quarter of the year, and that production volume will be transferred over into next year. The amount accounts for 8 percent of its total harvest volume this year.

"This was mainly due to the market situation," Valderhaug said.

Prices on salmon from Chile continue to decline even as prices in Norway are recovering, and the price differentiation between the two has been increasing for months.

Cermaq has not withheld salmon from the market in Chile for two or three years, but such practices are common in Chile in challenging market situations, Valderhaug said.

Its Canadian subsidiary, Mainstream Canada, however, will decrease its production from 19,000 metric tons this year to 15,000 metric tons next year. This is the result of the IHN virus outbreak Mainstream Canada experienced in May, which wiped out young fish that would have been harvested next year. This came as very sour news for the Canadian division.

"We're struggling already with supply," Mainstream Canada sales manager Nick Dicarolo told IntraFish. "We need more fish every year. But there's so much government regulation."

Cermaq's struggles do not end there. The market itself, which has been riddled by low prices for Atlantic salmon from Chile and Canada, is "very challenging," Valderhaug said.

"Even though we are moving volume to be sold in 2013, we do not expect any significant positive results due to that..."

<http://www.intrafish.com/global/news/article1357836.ece>

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[“Disease hits Cermaq’s Q3 profits”](#) (Intrafish, 23 October)

[“Disease Crisis Cripples Cermaq”](#) (Green Around the Gills, 23 October)

[“Cermaq Like a Cancer Grows: The Sound of Cermaq’s SLAPP”](#) (Green Around the Gills, 22 October)

Undercurrent News, 23 October 2012

Cermaq tables 37% volume increase for 2013



Cermaq, the Oslo-listed company which owns the salmon farmer Mainstream and the feed producer Ewos, expects to harvest some 154,000 metric tons of salmon in 2013.

That would be a 37% increase from its expected harvest of 112,000t this year.

The bulk of that, 30,000t, will come as a result of Cermaq's recent acquisition of Cultivos Marinos Chiloe, alongside organic growth in Chile and Norway.

The guidance came out of an analyst note as Cermaq released its third quarter results on Oct.23.

As expected, the results were poor for Mainstream, which has been particularly badly hit by disease issues in Norway and Canada. The Chilean operation performed the worst, as low prices meant the division posted an operating loss per kilo of pre-fair value of NOK 8.2 – a drop of more than 200% from the same quarter last year.

“For all species the prices were significantly lower compared to last year as well as against second quarter 2012,” Cermaq said, commenting on Chile.

“Production cost increased compared to third quarter last year, but came somewhat down compared to second quarter 2012. The biological performance is generally stable, although some increased SRS particularly on trout has been experienced. Mortality is considered at a manageable level reflecting the increased biomass from last year.”

Overall, Mainstream posted negative earnings before interests and taxes (EBIT) of NOK 73 million, corresponding to a loss of NOK 3 per kilo. The only region that bucked the trend was Nordland in northern Norway, while trout from Chile was the worst performer – loss of NOK 11 per kilo – Nordea analyst Kolbjorn Giskeodegard said in an update.

“Our investment in increased capacity through the acquisition of Cultivos Marinos Chiloe is an important investment for Mainstream,” Cermaq CEO John Hindar said in a statement.

“We know that the short term results will be challenging, but we are confident that the combined operations will improve the flexibility and possibility for further improved operations in the longer run.”

On the other hand, Ewos performed even better than expected. The company's fish feed sales were up by 5% compared to the same quarter last year, to 388,000t.

This was largely due to a 16% increase in sales volumes in Norway – in other regions, volumes were down, Cermaq said.

Ewos was also successful in transferring the increase in raw material prices to the fish farmers "fairly quickly", hence keeping better margins than expected, Giskeodegard wrote in his note.

This helped it report of NOK 346 million, "much stronger than the expected NOK 240 million," Giskeodegard said.

"As expected, the farming figures came in weak with an overall loss of NOK 3 per kilo," Giskeodegard wrote.

"The regional split shows losses of NOK 8.2 per kilo in Chile and NOK 4.6 per kilo in Canada, while the Norwegian operations had more or less a break-even level.

"For Ewos the results were much better than expected as they delivered a 10.3% EBIT margin while we had a 7% forecast.

"When moving the spotlight to the 2013 operations Cermaq is guiding continued growth in Norway and Chile and decline in Canada. The growth in Chile continue both organic and via the CMC acquisition.

"As the Q3 figures came in substantially better than consensus we should expect a positive market reaction today, though depending on their message in the presentation later this morning."

For the fourth quarter of 2012, Nordea expects the Mainstream operations in Chile and Canada to remain loss-making.

Overall, Cermaq reported EBIT pre-fair value and biomass write-down of NOK 232 million in the third quarter of 2012, down from NOK 348 million in the same period last year.

When including write-downs due to disease outbreaks in Canada and Norway, EBIT was down to NOK 180 million.

Overall sales totalled NOK 3.47 billion, while earnings before interests, taxes and depreciation (EBITDA) ended up at NOK 316 million. The quarterly result ended at a net loss of NOK 43 million.

"This is in total a satisfactory result based on the current challenging salmon market," Hindar said.

"The underlying operational farming cost has been stable with a reduction in Mainstream Norway, which previously was communicated and expected. Ewos is at the same time demonstrating its capability of optimising the production capacity in a peak production period."

Cermaq also announced it is in the process of refinancing two credit facilities of NOK 1.5 billion with Danske Bank, DNB, Handelsbanken and Nordea. As part of the deal the loans have been extended from 2013 to 2016.

This means that “together with the recently announced bond issue, the total available long term credit commitments in Cermaq have been increased to NOK 4.6 billion with an average maturity of 39 months,” the company said.

Read also:

- [Cermaq, Cultivos Marinos: More than feed deal gone 'bad'](#)
- [Nordea forecasts 75% dive in Cermaq earnings](#)
- [Mainstream Canada appeals defamation ruling](#)
- [Cermaq loses nearly €7.5m to diseases](#)
- [Cermaq: Risk diversification key in Chile](#)

<http://www.undercurrentnews.com/2012/10/23/cermaq-tables-37-volume-increase-for-201/>

Fisheries Information Service, 23 October 2012



CEO Jon Hindar stated this was a total satisfactory result based on the current challenging salmon market. (Photo: Stock File/FIS)

Cermaq Q3's 'satisfactory' results despite complicated salmon market



NORWAY

Wednesday, October 24, 2012, 01:00 (GMT + 9)

[Cermaq](#)'s EBIT pre fair value and biomass write-down for Q3 2012 was NOK 232 million (EUR 31.4 million) from NOK 348 million (EUR 47.1 million) year-on-year. EBIT pre fair value was NOK 180 million (EUR 24.3 million) following write-downs in Canada due to an

IHN virus outbreak and in Norway from a PD outbreak.

“This is in total a satisfactory result based on the current challenging salmon market,” said CEO Jon Hindar. “The underlying operational farming cost has been stable with a reduction in Mainstream Norway, which previously was communicated and expected. [EWOS](#) is at the same time demonstrating its capability of optimising the production capacity in a peak production period.”

EWOS sold 388,000 tonnes of fish feed in third quarter 2012, up 5 per cent against third quarter 2011, due to a volume increase in Norway of 16 per cent. In other regions, volume fell.

EBIT pre fair value increased to NOK 346 million (EUR 46.8 million) from NOK 290 million (EUR 39.2 million) in the corresponding quarter last year.

[Mainstream](#) Norway reported an EBIT pre fair value of NOK 10 million (EUR 1.4 million) representing a loss of NOK 10 million (EUR 1.4 million), excluding the NOK 20 million (EUR 2.7 million) biomass write-down due to PD.

EBIT pre fair value per kg was NOK 0.8 (EUR 0.11) compared to NOK -1.2 (EUR -0.16) in the third quarter of 2011. For Nordland, it was NOK 2.0 (EUR 0.27) versus NOK 2.3 (EUR 0.31) and Finnmark was NOK -2.4 (EUR -0.32) against NOK -25.6 (EUR -3.46).

The production cost in both regions dropped compared to Q2 2012, but a 4,000 tonnes lower sales volume compared to previous estimates harmed the cost per kg for Finnmark.

Mainstream Canada's EBIT pre fair value was a loss of NOK 26 million (EUR 3.5 million) compared to a profit of NOK 7 million (EUR 946,909) in Q3 2011. The corresponding EBIT pre fair value per kg was NOK -4.6 (EUR -0.62) versus NOK 1.1 (EUR 0.15), mainly caused by lower prices.

Mainstream Chile had an EBIT pre fair value loss of NOK 57 million (EUR 7.7 million) compared to a profit of NOK 65 million (EUR 8.8 million) in the third quarter of last year. EBIT pre fair value per kg was NOK -8.2 (EUR -1.1) versus NOK 7.7 (EUR 1.04) a year ago.

For all species the prices were significantly lower compared to Q3 2011 and Q2 2012. Production cost increased year-on-year, but fell somewhat compared to Q2 2012. The biological performance is generally stable.

The acquisition of [Cultivos Marinos Chiloé](#) was completed in early October, adding above 30,000 tonnes of new capacity for Mainstream Chile; the acquisition will ensure improved flexibility in the combined farming business in Chile and support Mainstream's "four cornerstone" strategy for sustainable operations. Preliminary direct synergies have been estimated at around USD 6 million per year with full impact from 2014.

Related articles:

- [Cermaq quarter results affected by disease outbreaks](#)
- [Cermaq sees improvements, negative cash flow in Q2](#)

By *Natalia Real*
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<http://www.fis.com/fis/worldnews/worldnews.asp?monthyear=&day=24&id=56337&l=e&special=&ndb=1%20target=>

Read also "[Disease takes chunk out of Cermaq profits](#)" (Seafood Source, 23 October)

Yahoo News, 23 October 2012

Sobeys investigates handling procedures after sea lice found on Atlantic salmon

By *Nadine Bells*

Just as XL Foods Inc. plant [is resuming operations](#) — with extra inspectors on hand for good measure — following a major beef recall, Sobeys is trying to reassure Canadians that the [sea lice found on Atlantic salmon](#) in its Maritimes stores is nothing to worry about.

Sobeys discovered sea lice on about a dozen whole Atlantic salmon on store shelves after B.C. activist and biologist Alexandra Morton [posted photos](#) of some affected fish on *Facebook* and launched a campaign against the sale of the fish.

"We are finding lice on the majority of farmed salmon," Morton [said](#). "We don't know where the fish is from."

The chain voluntarily removed 84 whole-farmed salmon and confirmed that some of the fish did contain sea lice, *CBC News* [reports](#).

The grocery chain is currently reviewing quality control with the supplier and has not yet returned whole salmon to its shelves.

The source of the fish has not been identified.

"We're currently reviewing all the related quality-control issues with the wholesaler and expect to have whole Atlantic salmon back on the shelves in the not-to-distant future," Cynthia Thompson, with Sobeys Inc. in Stellarton, [said](#) in an interview. "We, of course, urge any consumer experiencing any sort of quality control issue with any product in any of our stores to contact us as soon as possible."

Sea lice "[are naturally occurring in the marine environment](#)" and can affect both farmed and wild salmon and, while not appetizing to look at, are not harmful to humans. The lice are typically removed before the fish arrive in stores.

"*Health Canada* says sea lice are only found on the outside of the fish and not in the flesh itself, thus not affecting the quality of the meat," *Global News* [reports](#).

Bruce Hancock, the executive director of the Aquaculture Association of Nova Scotia, [reassures](#) Canadians that the voluntarily removal of the whole salmon is not nearly as alarming as it sounds:

"We have to put this in context," he [said](#). "What they removed from the shelves were whole salmon. It amounted to slightly more than 80 fish in all their stores, so it was hardly a major recall."

Larry Hammell, a professor of aquaculture health management at the Atlantic Veterinary College in Charlottetown, [says](#) the removal was complete unnecessary and considers Morton's campaign a "scare tactic."

"There is absolutely no human health concern associated with them (sea lice)...there is no reason scientifically to remove these salmon from the shelves," [said](#) Hammell.

After the beef recall — and now the lice-ridden salmon — are you more hesitant to trust the food-inspection industry?

<http://ca.news.yahoo.com/blogs/dailybrew/sobeys-investigates-handling-procedures-sea-lice-found-atlantic-165038039.html>

Intrafish, 23 October 2012

Sobeys: Salmon removal only temporary

Ban on whole Atlantic salmon came after a customer complaint on company's Facebook page.

 Jeanine Stewart

Published: 23 October 2012 01:17 PM

Updated: 23 October 2012 02:22 PM



A photo posted on its Facebook page was

the impetus for Sobeys' ban on whole Atlantic salmon, Sobeys confirmed to **IntraFish** on Monday. However, its decision to remove the product from its 84 stores throughout Atlantic Canada is only temporary, Cynthia Thompson, director of communication and corporate affairs, told **IntraFish**.

A customer posted a link to a photo of a fish infected with sea lice on Sobeys Facebook, Thompson said. The photo came from salmon farming activist Alexander Morton's blog.

"The understanding was it appears the sea lice was on the fish," Thompson said. "We, as a precautionary measure, to air on the side of caution, removed all the whole fish from our seafood cases," Thompson said.

Sea lice is understood to live in the gills and head of the fish and do not penetrate the skin, she said.

The company purchases seafood from a seafood wholesaler, which includes fish from Cooke Aquaculture, but no companies are likely to be affected to any significant degree due to the small number of fish affected -- 80.

Associated Articles

- Sobeys removes Atlantic salmon from stores

<http://www.intrafish.com/global/news/article1357738.ece>

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Intrafish, 22 October 2012



Cultivos Marinos acquisition creates bumpy path for Cermaq

Analyst: They are heading for more turmoil over the next twelve months because of the situation in Chile now.

 Jeanine Stewart

Published: 22 October 2012 01:17 PM

Updated: 22 October 2012 01:54 PM

As Cermaq enlarges its footprint in Chile, it is stepping onto a path that is more risky and perhaps less profitable than the one it was on before, analysts told **IntraFish**.

Associated Articles

- Cermaq ramps up in Chile
- Cermaq 'paid right price'

"The thing is, Cermaq has increased its exposure in Chile," Felix Heinrich, analyst for Pareto Securities, told **IntraFish**. "We think the margins in Chile will lack the growth of the margins of the Norwegian farmers in a difficult period."

The acquisition gives Cermaq 32,000 more metric tons capacity per year, increasing its total salmon farming production capacity to 180,000 metric tons, but with that increase comes the company's debt as well as the risk of operating in Chile, a country where sanitation regulations enforcement is struggling to keep up with growth. At the moment, sea lice is a prevalent production hindrance, multiple sources told **IntraFish**.

"They are heading for more turmoil over the next 12 months because of the situation in Chile now," Marius Gard, an analyst with Carnegie, told **IntraFish**. "They are losing money on Atlantic trout and salmon. And for Cermaq, there is increasing risk with higher corporate risk in their receivables."

The government plans to impose pen density limits on salmon farmers that have experienced poor salmon health performance, but the success of the program is yet to be seen.

"There is a lot fish at the moment but with a big question mark in respect to the management of the industry," Pedro Arroyo, CEO of Chile Seafood, told **IntraFish**. Arroyo buys salmon from farms in Chile.

Meanwhile, salmon farming in Norway appears to have a bright future. Although reports on Friday showed prices at a lower level, prices are expected to rise in November, from a Fish Pool futures price of \$4.20 (NOK 24 / €3.20) to a price of \$4.80 (€3.7/NOK27), with December increasing by NOK 1 (€0.14/\$0.18), and in 2013, prices are expected to climb even higher, to over \$5.30 (€4.10 / NOK30).

"Mainstream Norway will have a bright future," Heinrich said.

Yet due to Cermaq's increased exposure in Chile, its margins are expected to come down. The consensus estimates are for a 5 percent to 7 percent decrease in margins, although Heinrich estimates it will range from 5 percent to 6 percent.

<http://www.intrafish.com/global/news/article1357658.ece>

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Radio 4 All, 19 October 2012

Dr Alexandra Morton speaks in Halifax

- Cermaq seals Chilean farmer deal for \$110M
 - Despite ties, Mainstream a 'tiny' client for Ewos
 - Mainstream doubling salmon production in Northern Norway
 - Cermaq, Cultivos Marinos talking merger again?
 - Cermaq ends discussions with Cultivos Marinos
 - Report: Cermaq bids \$140M for Cultivos Marinos
-



Listen online via: <http://www.radio4all.net/index.php/program/63830>

Simon Fraser University, 17 October 2012

Fish Controversy Nets Sterling Prize

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Flickr: <http://at.sfu.ca/eXOEmP>

The often viciously targeted authors of more than a decade of research on the fate of British Columbia's wild salmon have netted a befitting prize from Simon Fraser University.

[Rick Routledge](#), an SFU fish population statistician, and [Alexandra Morton](#), an independent fish biologist and SFU honorary degree recipient, are the 2012 recipients of SFU's [Nora and Ted Sterling Prize in Support of Controversy](#).

Routledge and Morton will be presented with their Sterling Prize at a brief ceremony on Wednesday, Oct. 24 at the Morris J Wosk Centre for Dialogue, SFU Vancouver, Asia Pacific Hall. At 7 p.m., after the ceremony, the two will deliver jointly their lecture: *Salmon Farms and Disease: The Importance of Both Academic Freedom and Community-Engaged Research*.

The Sterling award honours work that challenges complacency and provokes controversy or contributes to its understanding. The duo is happy to receive the award but the two know it doesn't mitigate the damage caused by controversy.

"The controversy has been very counterproductive," says Routledge whom fish farmers have labeled an activist. "It has delayed vitally important regulatory changes that are needed if we

are to reduce the currently unacceptable risks to the preservation of abundant runs of wild Pacific salmon.”

Morton agrees but notes government and industry ridicule of their research has had an ironic impact on public support. “What they don’t understand is the more we get attacked the higher our credibility rises,” says Morton. “I simply remain dedicated to using science to measure and define the impact of farm salmon pathogens on wild salmon. My observations suggest the impact is very serious and government is afraid to do anything about it.”

Governments, the aquaculture industry and lobbyists have repeatedly and alternately vilified, lauded and dismissed Routledge and Morton since the duo first teamed up to study the potential impacts of aquaculture on Canadian wild salmon stocks.

That was in the early 2000s when they linked sea lice infested fish farms in the Broughton Archipelago to the death of juvenile salmon going by them and declining salmon runs in B.C.

Since then they’ve contributed to many published scientific papers and had their reputations vindicated by other researchers who’ve confirmed and extended their findings.

Most recently, Routledge and Morton incurred the wrath of the aquaculture industry when they announced at a news conference they’d made the first discovery in B.C. (Rivers Inlet) of the infectious salmon anemia virus (ISAv) in wild salmon.

Hundreds of media, including correspondents in the U.S., the UK, Norway, Turkey and Croatia, covered the discovery.

Simon Fraser University is Canada's top-ranked comprehensive university and one of the top 50 universities in the world under 50 years old. With campuses in Vancouver, Burnaby and Surrey, B.C., SFU engages actively with the community in its research and teaching, delivers almost 150 programs to more than 30,000 students, and has more than 120,000 alumni in 130 countries.

Backgrounder: Controversial research inspires change

The work of Rick Routledge and Alexandra Morton has been tied to the federal government taking back responsibility for fisheries management in B.C. from the province’s government. The duo’s work also contributed to the federal government launching its 2009 Cohen Commission’s inquiry into the decline of Fraser River wild salmon.

Within less than a month of the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) dismissing their latest ISAv findings, a reactivation of the Cohen Commission in December 2012 to investigate them led to a stunning revelation in testimony.

DFO had positive test results for ISAv for 100 per cent of Cultus Lake sockeye tested. DFO had known about the potential threat of ISAv or an ISA-like virus since 2004.

Meanwhile, south of the border, U.S. government officials were taking note of all this and passed a bill calling for more research into the potential harm that ISAv might cause to wild Pacific salmon.

Simon Fraser University: Engaging Students. Engaging Research. Engaging Communities.

<http://www.sfu.ca/pamr/media-releases/2012/fish-controversy-nets-sterling-prize.html>

Seafood Executive, October 2012

NOT DEFAMATORY ENOUGH

What's a CEO to do when his or her company is attacked in the press? Sue for defamation? That doesn't always work.

A Supreme Court of British Columbia judge dismissed Mainstream Canada's defamation claim against environmentalist Don Staniford in October, putting an end to a case that has stretched on since last March.

"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," wrote Madam Justice Adair in her judgement. "I have found that he was actuated by express malice towards Mainstream."

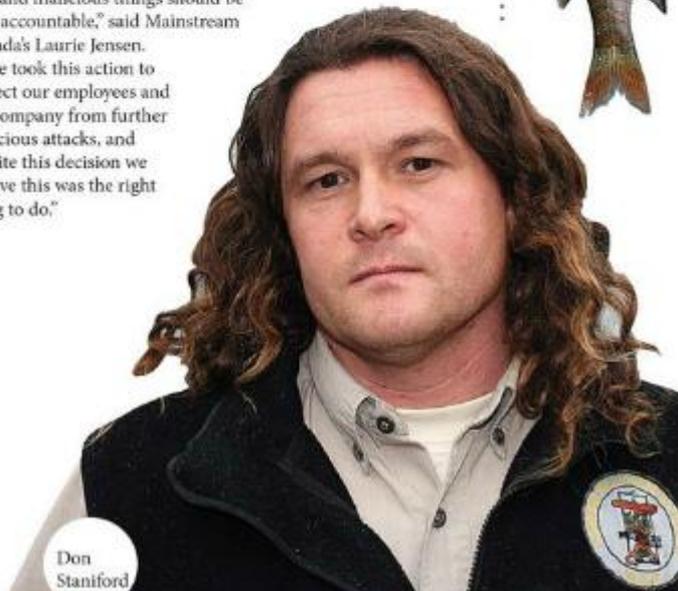
Yet these findings were not enough to rule in favor of Mainstream, she said.

"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," she said.

Mainstream Canada is currently reviewing the ruling and considering its full implications.

"We believe that people who say defamatory and malicious things should be held accountable," said Mainstream Canada's Laurie Jensen.

"We took this action to protect our employees and the company from further malicious attacks, and despite this decision we believe this was the right thing to do."



<http://www.intrafish.com/sfi/epaper/?hashedzmagsid=4be7a868&magsid=490553>

Read more via: <http://www.gaaia.org/lawsuit>



Global News Archive:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

17 July - "FishyLeaks"/"ISA in BC"/"Scotland's Secrets" - [online here](#)

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

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

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

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

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



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

So long and thanks for all the fish!

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