

Contradictory Science

It is astonishing that Scientific results can be so inconclusive as to be perhaps conjured up by conflicting interests. I suppose I'm bios toward science that produces the most evidence and has the least amount to gain from the results. A statement that says "studies clears farm salmon from causing decline of wild salmon" which is yet to produce the methodology of the science for peer review, questions the implied public statement. The debate should be conclusively reviewed before such a statement is made public. I can only wonder why those that have two opposing theories, if they are in fact just theories, aren't engaged to work together towards a conclusion of fact. If scientific studies are to be conclusive it would seem logical to engage both sides of the debate and to provide equal access to documentation. The only facts in my mind that seems to have validity in fact is, that wild salmon stocks have continued to decline since the expansion of the fish farm industry. And regardless of the degree, the Atlantic salmon are an invasive species that has negative effect on wild species. To say that "studies clear farm salmon from causing decline of wild salmon" is simply irresponsible.

In an application to the Cohen Commission to produce aquiculture health records, the initial request was for records for all fish farms on the Fraser River migration routes, including both sides of Vancouver Island through Klemtu, dating from 1980 to the present.

The British Columbia Salmon Farm Association (BCSFA) wrote, "we are concerned that expanding the timeframe of the evidence placed before the Commission will detract from the Commissions process and will place additional financial pressures on all participants".

In its letter, the BCSFA proposed providing the Commission with aggregated data for the years 2007 to 2009 from the Fish Health Documents with a report summarizing and explaining the raw data.

According to Gary Marty the studies lead author, says, "the study is the first to analyze 20 years of fish production data. and 10 years of sea lice counts". He goes on further to say that his co-author Sonja Sakida is the first researcher given access to confidential records (and why are they confidential?) from all the Broughton aquaculture companies. **Why then was it so difficult to make this information available to the Cohen Commission, when it was already available.**

For the UC Davis article and the Digital Journal website for access to other documents, see below

<http://www.digitaljournal.com/article/301422>

http://www.news.ucdavis.edu/search/news_detail.lasso?id=9698

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