



BC SALMON FARMERS ASSOCIATION ISSUES 4TH ANNUAL SUSTAINABILITY PROGRESS REPORT

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CAMPBELL RIVER B.C. - The BC Salmon Farmers Association has issued its 4th annual Sustainability Progress Report.

The 17-page, data-rich report details B.C. salmon farmers' environmental stewardship and contributions to communities along the province's coast, covering topics ranging from financial support for independent research to management of sea lice populations.

The report can be found online [here](#). In his introduction to the report, the association's new executive director, John Paul Fraser, states:

"One of the major misconceptions of the salmon farming sector is that it does not care or think about the state of wild salmon and the environment. However, science has repeatedly told us that wild and farm-raised salmon can co-exist in the ocean and salmon farming actually plays a role in protecting wild fish by providing a sustainable alternative."

Mr. Fraser added this year's report tells a story about an industry that has evolved considerably over the last 35 years and continues to evolve with a commitment to drawing upon ongoing research and investing in the latest technology, equipment and processes to ensure it operates responsibly.

"There is no question issues have come up that need addressing, and that like any human activity aquaculture can have an environmental impact," Mr. Fraser said. "However, we need to farm food to eat, and aquaculture already plays a crucial role in feeding a hungry world. Reading this report, British Columbians should come away confident their salmon farmers have tackled every issue that has arisen and raises this important food responsibly, with the health of the environment and wild fish at the forefront of their decision-making."

Today, B.C.'s salmon farmers raise almost three-quarters of the salmon harvested in the province each year on about 0.05 per cent of the coast.

About the BC Salmon Farmers Association:

Farm-raised salmon is B.C.'s highest valued seafood product, the province's top agricultural export, and generates over \$1.5-billion towards the B.C. economy, resulting in over 6,600 jobs.

The BC Salmon Farmers Association represents 59 businesses and organizations throughout the value chain of finfish aquaculture in B.C. Our members account for over 95% of the annual provincial harvest of farm-raised salmon, 100% of the salmon feed produced in B.C., and most of the service and suppliers involved in ensuring that over \$700-million of salmon raised in B.C. gets to domestic and global markets.

For more information visit BCSalmonFarmers.ca

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