

# Salmon Farming Impacts on Coastal Communities

B.C.'s salmon farming sector is the socio-economic backbone of many rural coastal Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities in B.C. With licence renewal comes the opportunity to invest, innovate, and seize Canada's Blue Economy opportunity.

## 79 Active Salmon Farming Licences in B.C. Communities Matter

Today, 79 active federal salmon farming licences and some provincial tenures up and down the coast sustain the socio-economic activity that underpins B.C.'s salmon farming community and values.

### Salmon Farming in BC by the Numbers

**\$1.2 BILLION** in Economic Activity

**\$427 MILLION** in GDP,

and over **4,700** BC workers

The information below shows the total economic impact by region (direct, indirect and induced impacts) within British Columbia.

### Potential Economic Losses within BC if Licenses Are Not Reissued, by Region (\$ millions)

Region	Output	GDP	Labour Income	Employment
Courtenay/Comox/Cumberland	\$48	\$17	\$14	193
Port Hardy/Port McNeil	\$135	\$47	\$38	512
Port Alberni/Tofino/Ucluelet	\$55	\$20	\$16	215
West Coast NVI	\$47	\$16	\$13	181
Sunshine Coast/Metro Vancouver	\$326	\$122	\$101	1,373
Other*	\$528	\$205	\$84	2,244
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,196</b>	<b>\$427</b>	<b>\$267</b>	<b>4,718</b>
Estimated losses already happening in the Broughton & Discovery Islands	\$419	\$150	\$238	1,652

Source: RIAS Inc.

## Food for Thought:

Over the past decade, 10 formal review processes and multiple scientific investigations by independent government bodies have concluded that **salmon farms pose no more than minimal risk to wild Pacific salmon populations.**

## Licence Renewal:



**Innovation:**  
Piloting new transformational technology and innovation



**Blue Economy Opportunity:**  
Up to \$1.4B in new investment over the next 30 years



**Reconciliation:**  
Delivering on Indigenous reconciliation through new First Nations partnership agreements



**New Highly Skilled Jobs:**  
9,400 new jobs over the next 30 years



**Stability for Coastal Communities:**  
Responsible transition plan development by 2025 and Area-based management pilot



**Food Security:**  
Strengthening British Columbia and Canada's role in food security and sustainable food production



**Climate Mitigation:**  
Contributing to climate change mitigation by farming the lowest carbon-emitting major farmed animal protein: Salmon

Licence Renewal:  
**June 2022**

## Licence Rejection:



**Indigenous & non-Indigenous businesses gone:**  
Up to \$1.4B in new investment over the next 30 years



**Mental Health & Community Wellness**  
Throughout COVID-19, B.C. communities have been struggling with mental health challenges. Further uncertainty and instability will only add to the challenges coastal communities and people are faced with.



**Thousands of well-paid jobs gone:**  
The loss of almost 5,000 family-supporting jobs in many rural coastal Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities



**Increased carbon emissions**



**Canada is closed for business:**  
Canada and British Columbia's identity becomes a place where global investment will not flow.



**Canada-wide impact:**  
Many major salmon producers have operations in Eastern Canada, with licence rejection comes a chilling effect across Canada, not just B.C.



**Harm to coastal Indigenous & non-Indigenous communities:**  
With immediate and significant job loss come increased poverty, health, and education challenges.



**Setting Reconciliation back:**  
Without licences to operate, B.C.'s salmon farmers won't be able to fulfill the obligations of the benefit agreements in place with many coastal nations.