

BC Salmon Farmers

Consequences of the Decision to Shut Down
Salmon Farming in the Discovery Islands

March 2021

Data prepared by independent economics consulting firm, RIAS Inc.



- BCSFA represents 70 members involved in the business of Salmon Farming, primarily on B.C.'s coast.
- Salmon Farming supports nearly 6,500 well-paid jobs in rural coastal communities.
- Every Salmon farmer in B.C. has been certified by at least one third-party organization, such as the Aquaculture Stewardship Council.
- Farm-raised salmon is climate friendly protein, producing far less Carbon Dioxide than beef, pork, or chicken.

- ✓ **#1 agricultural export commodity**
- ✓ **Contributes \$1.6 billion annually to B.C.'s economy**

British Columbia's Salmon Farmers could contribute significantly to the healthy economic recovery of coastal communities. By 2050, we could invest \$1.4 billion and generate nearly 10,000 new jobs.

<https://ready.bcsalmonfarmers.ca/>

Canada's Blue Economy is going backwards.

Damage Overview

Below data outlines the topline potential impacts to B.C. coastal communities over the next 18-months

- Potentially **1,535 B.C. Jobs Gone**
Average loss of more than \$79,000 in salary and benefits per family
- **\$386.6 Million** Economic Output
- **\$139.1 Million** GDP
- **\$21.5 Million** in Annual Tax Revenue
- **267 Suppliers** of Goods & Services Impacted
- **\$20.47 Million** Spending on Suppliers
- Up to **10.7 Million Salmon** Euthanized,
a loss of **\$170 million** in value

24%
of B.C.'s Salmon
Aquaculture sector
could be wiped out

Immediate Decision Impacts

The impacts of the Discovery Islands decision are immediate, as companies are forced into near-term actions based on the 18-month time horizon.

- **Layoffs will begin in mid-February 2021**
- **Freeze on planned investments:** Shortly following the Minister's decision, investment plans were put on hold by head offices.
- **Termination of commercial or benefits agreements:** Existing commercial or benefits agreements in the Discovery Islands will be terminated.
- **Euthanizing of salmon:** Unless an extension to the 18-month deadline is granted and/or fish at various growth stages can grow at 10.7 million fish will have to be euthanized.

Ripple Effect

B.C.'s Salmon Aquaculture sector is a dynamic and integrated network of businesses working together to raise and distribute world-class healthy affordable protein.

The Discovery Islands decision significantly impacts direct, indirect, induced employment, including 267 goods and services suppliers.

Get to know some of the local businesses supporting our sector:

- [Poseidon Ocean Systems](#)
- [Brown's Bay Packing](#)
- [Campbell River Toyota](#)
- [Excel Career College](#)
- [Badinotti Net Services](#)
- [InWater Technologies](#)



Ask to Government

BC's salmon farming community is calling on the federal government to reconsider its Discovery Islands farming decision. There is a more responsible path forward for British Columbia's coastal communities.

Time



Let's allow everyone more time and opportunity to develop ideas to minimize the serious impacts of this decision.

Transfer



Let's allow the transfer of millions of juvenile salmon to ocean sites so that they can complete their lifecycle.

Table



Let's bring everyone together at a table as part of an inclusive and transparent process, where we can talk about the future and create unity in our communities.



Let's talk! Q&A

Thank You...let's stay in touch 😊