

RURAL ECONOMY AND CONNECTIVITY COMMITTEE

SALMON FARMING IN SCOTLAND

SUBMISSION FROM ALEX SCOTT

Despite the high demand for farmed salmon in the UK and Europe; I request you to consider that salmon farms in UK waters (at sea and those that are in Sea Lochs) should be closed over the impact that is being caused detriment to the wildlife in the surrounding area.

Wild Salmon and also migratory Sea trout are particularly at risk, Their wild populations have seen dramatic decreases in recent years due to the increase plague of sea lice that plague the salmon farm.

There are quite strong correlations that demonstrate the detrimental impace caused by the large numbers of fish farms are (West Coast & Hebrides) that wild fish populations have fallen off a cliff in those regions.

Yet in the East of Scotland & north where there are no salmon farms there are still healthy populations of migratory fish. Isn't this obvious to you? Your mandate should be to protect our wild species instead of destroying them.

In addition to this, it is extremely concerning that the use of highly toxic chemicals to control the lice has a massive impact on the wildlife surrounding the farms.

Closed containment farming on land would be a much more environmentally friendly way to protect and preserve our wild stocks of fish.

Alex Scott

March 2018