

Regarding Eve River Fishing Report July 28

From: June Ross [jross12@telus.net]

Sent: Sat 2016-07-30@6:13am

This is for Bob and whomever else you think may be interested:

It is not only the warming waters that are creating the problem. It is the fish farms that are full of disease and are covering the smolts with lice and possibly the fish virus.

Here is a report from Alexandra Morton:

Dying farm salmon threat to wild salmon?

by [Alexandra Morton](#) | Jul 29, 2016 | [Uncategorized](#) | [12 comments](#)

I received an answer from DFO today (see below). They are *not* going to visit the Cermaq/Mitsubishi farm, Venture Point, where 1000s of Atlantic salmon are dying. They are only going to talk to the company vets.

Now I am really concerned. This is the industry that **does not even believe** that the sea lice on the fish in their pens kill wild salmon, how can they be trusted with the health of a threatened Fraser Sockeye run? Fishermen are not going to fish this run of sockeye to protect them, and DFO still does not expect enough on the spawning grounds.

Here is the [DFO Fraser sockeye update](#):

" management adjustment for Early Stuart and Late run sockeye in 2016 as the forecast returns are very low across the entire forecast range and it is anticipated they will be managed to the Low Abundance Exploitation Rate (LAER), with the expected outcome of a spawning escapement well below goal."

And yet DFO is not going run a boat the 30 km from Campbell River to Okisollo Channel to take a sample to ground truth what the industry is saying.

I have written to DFO to tell them they are misinformed, the workers on Venture Point farm are *not* staying away from the fish. There are divers in the water non-stop pulling out over 100 fish per pen, 12 pens. When they are done, they start over again.

Here is a short film of the dying salmon in the [Venture Point farm](#).

Below are some pictures of the activity on the farm pulling fresh and rotting dead salmon from the pens and disposing of them in garbage cans. This farm is bustling with activity.

We are anchored peacefully nearby to witness the dying farm salmon on Canada's greatest wild salmon migration route. I want to thank the workers on the farm for their patience. Our government has put us in a difficult position and I don't think anyone wants harm to come to the wild salmon of BC. We await DFO's presence. I am hopeful they will see these pictures and understand at this farm is a dealing with a lot of dead fish and we need our government to provide some sense of oversight that the greasy slick pouring out of this farm is not spreading piscine reovirus or other pathogens over the gills of the inbound Fraser sockeye and other wild salmon."

This is the blog site one can follow. <https://www.voyageforsalmon.ca/>

Someone could report what everyone is seeing on the Eve and anywhere else in our area on the blog site.

Yours
June Ross
Nanaimo