

LLS

Preferred LLS supplier of the semi-closed pen tech FiiZK announced bankruptcy of 5 of its 8 group companies with debts of some 41 million euros.

<https://salmonbusiness.com/closed-cages-court-ruling-reveals-supply-company-as-officially-bankrupt/>

Despite the LLS claim that this is tried and tested technology, the fact remains that the tech is experimental as demonstrated in 2021 when Cermaq Canada abandoned its trial of semi-closed containment systems after a technical fault reduced water quality, resulting in fish mortality. Cermaq director Dr. Peter McKenzie said “SCCS is immature technology under development, therefore it is not surprising when you are trialling new technology you will run into challenges”. In November 2022 2 FiiZK semi-closed cages were damaged during a storm in Norway spilling 400 litres of diesel.

“The technology has been proven for decades and has operated without any fish escapes over hundreds of production cycles. It removes the threat of sea lice and the need for treatment, protecting the seabed, and will never require acoustic devices to deter seals.”

- Loch Long Salmon

FOI request reveals fish died from toxic levels of ammonia in system similar to that proposed for Bienn Reithe, Loch Long.

<https://afftheclayde.org/foi-request-reveals-fish-died-from-toxic-levels-of-ammonia-in-system-similar-to-that-proposed-for-bienn-reithe-loch-long/>

Over 200 individuals and organisations submitted representations to the National Park Authority opposing the fish farm proposal. 72 submissions supported it.

Debunking Loch Long Salmon statements:

“Per portion, farmed salmon has the lowest carbon footprint and uses the least amount of fresh water compared to other farmed animal proteins. It is good for your health and good for the planet”

- Loch Long Salmon

Farmed salmon are fed fishmeal. Over 20 million tons of wild fish from developing countries is destined for fishmeal production each year. Much of these wild fish could be eaten directly, however, instead they are exported from low-income countries on the other side of the world to provide an unsustainable fish for richer countries. Marine mammals and seabirds also depend

on populations of small fish, therefore our harvesting of wild stocks has a direct effect on their existence.

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/feb/13/food-for-thought-carbon-footprint-of-salmon-and-chicken-farming-mostly-stems-from-feed-study-suggests>

Farmed salmon has more calories, twice the fat content and over 20% more saturated fat than wild salmon and is loaded with contaminants.

<https://www.vancouverisawesome.com/sponsored/the-real-nutritional-difference-between-farmed-and-wild-salmon-1934078>

“Waste and uneaten food gathers at the bottom of the enclosure, is brought on shore and can be used as the basis for fertiliser or green energy, contributing to the Circular Economy while growing the lowest carbon animal protein in the world. “We will remove more than 80% of these waste products, therefore reducing the benthic impact per kg of salmon produced.”

- Loch Long Salmon

LLS predicts that 85% faeces and 100% uneaten food will be collected. The waste is pumped from the sump and transported back to land for treatment via a low-pressure surface pipe which forms part of the floating umbilical. Wastewater system involves screening, coagulation and dissolved air flotation of solids. Dewatering is stated to be at least 95% efficient with all water removed from the waste stream and pumped back into the loch.

As waste collection efficiency could be compromised by turbulence within the pen affecting settlement of waste particles or simply swept out with excess water through ports in the outer bag, the remaining waste would have a detrimental effect on the environment.

<https://afftheclyde.org/proposed-loch-long-fish-farm-beinn-reithe-questions-that-need-to-be-answered/>

“Loch Long is the ideal location for our demonstration site. We are confident Board Members will see the benefits of this game-changing project, furthering the National Park’s goals by promoting sustainable business growth, creating jobs and supporting communities.”

- Loch Long Salmon

The NPA special report questioned the level of contribution the development would bring to the area, given that only 12 jobs would be generated locally, compared with the level of risk associated with the development and that there was no guarantee that the proposed roles would be filled by local people. There is no guaranteed figure from LLSC as to how financially local communities would gain from the development.

<https://afftheclyde.org/national-park-planners-recommend-fish-farm-application-be-refused/>

Fish Farming in general quotes:

‘Closed nets may offer a potential alternative. ‘But these are not a panacea – the technology is not there yet – so in the meantime, there should be a moratorium on the industry, or at least on its expansion. The industry is not sustainable, so in the long term, it makes no sense to support it. ‘

- *Wildfish (wildfish.org)*

‘Current semi-open pens would have limited use in Scotland. ‘The issue is with their robustness,’ ‘They cannot withstand constant buffeting in open seas, so would only be deployed in sheltered waters.’

Tavish Scott, Salmon Scotland

‘The benefits of job creation from the farmed salmon are completely outweighed by the environmental and welfare disbenefits,’

Don Staniford, Scamon Scotland.

Fish Health Inspectorate data shows that nearly 15 million salmon mortalities were reported by farms in Scotland from January to November 2022, compared with 8.58 million in all of 2021 and 5.81 million in 2020. Diseases include gill pox virus, lice infestation and head and skeletal inflammation.

9 tonnes of antibiotics were used in UK salmon farms in 2021, a 168 per cent increase on 2017. Only pig farming used more. ‘Chemicals such as formaldehyde and hydroperoxide are used to tackle lice. Lice are crustaceans, so there is collateral damage to other crustaceans, such as lobsters,’

Don Staniford, Scamon Scotland

WildFish, believes the precautionary principle should be applied to the chemicals used in fish farming. ‘They can be harmful to crustaceans up to 30 kilometres away from the nets, so this is having an impact on Scotland’s creel fisher industry.’

- *Wildfish (wildfish.org)*

Since the 1970s, global populations of wild Atlantic salmon have declined from 8–10 million to just three million. In Scottish waters, reported rod catch of salmon in 2021, at 35,693, is the lowest since records began and consistent with a general pattern of decline in numbers of wild salmon returning to Scotland.

According to the Scottish Association for Marine Science, 200,000 tonnes of salmon will likely emit organic waste material equivalent to that of half the population of Scotland. One site it's been estimated, for its 3,850 tonnes of salmon, will produce the equivalent waste of 51,000 people every day.
