



April 22, 2025

The Right Honourable Mark Carney, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister and Privy Council of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 1A1
Via Email: pm@pm.gc.ca

Dear Prime Minister Carney,

We are collectively writing you today on behalf of the global salmon farming sector.

We are very concerned and perplexed about the Canadian government's recent federal policy that "bans" net pen salmon farming in British Columbia. This policy of your predecessor lacks scientific, economic and technical credibility. The transition to fully closed containment of the entire BC salmon farming industry in under 5 years is simply not feasible, will result in the collapse of the BC salmon farming sector and undermine further technological progress, and the assertions made regarding impacts to wild salmon are not supported by current science.

Canada has the most cold-water aquaculture potential in the world, ideal for growing salmon and other species of finfish. Through precision farming, aquaculture is now the source of the majority of global seafood produced and is the pathway to further growth. Salmon farming is the lowest-carbon large-scale animal farming on the planet. It is also the most popular seafood choice for Canadians, Americans and demand is growing around the world. The sector has heavily invested in innovation around the world and has made significant improvements in environmental protections. The Coller-FAIRR Sustainability Index for publicly-traded animal farming companies has consistently ranked salmon farmers as top sustainable global performers.

The BC "ban" is now being weaponized by extreme activists in our countries and in our farming jurisdictions. Salmon farming is a critical part of our nations' food security, economic prosperity and a major source of rural job creation and community wellness.

Our nations' governments support innovation, the protection of biodiversity and minimizing impacts to the ocean environment. They provide incentives for performance with clear, science-based performance objectives that are backed by research and collaborative partnerships. They do not ban an industry where 99.5% of global production is produced through ocean net pen systems and that is already working hard to innovate and co-exist with ocean ecosystems.

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Global investors look forward to Canada’s return to a reasonable policy approach. For several years, as this policy has been considered, hundreds of millions of dollars of investment have been frozen. A removal of the “ban” and a public recognition of Canada’s major opportunity in salmon farming production will provide the signal that Canada is re-focusing on sustainable economic development and that global investors can be confident in Canada once again.

Salmon farming is a major opportunity for Canada, and this sector can support you in strengthening Canada’s economy, Canada’s food security, and the health of coastal communities.

Sincerely,

Jon Arne Grøttum
President, International
Salmon Farmers Association
Director of Aquaculture,
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Federation

Øssur M. Dalbúð
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Chief Executive
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Salmon Tasmania