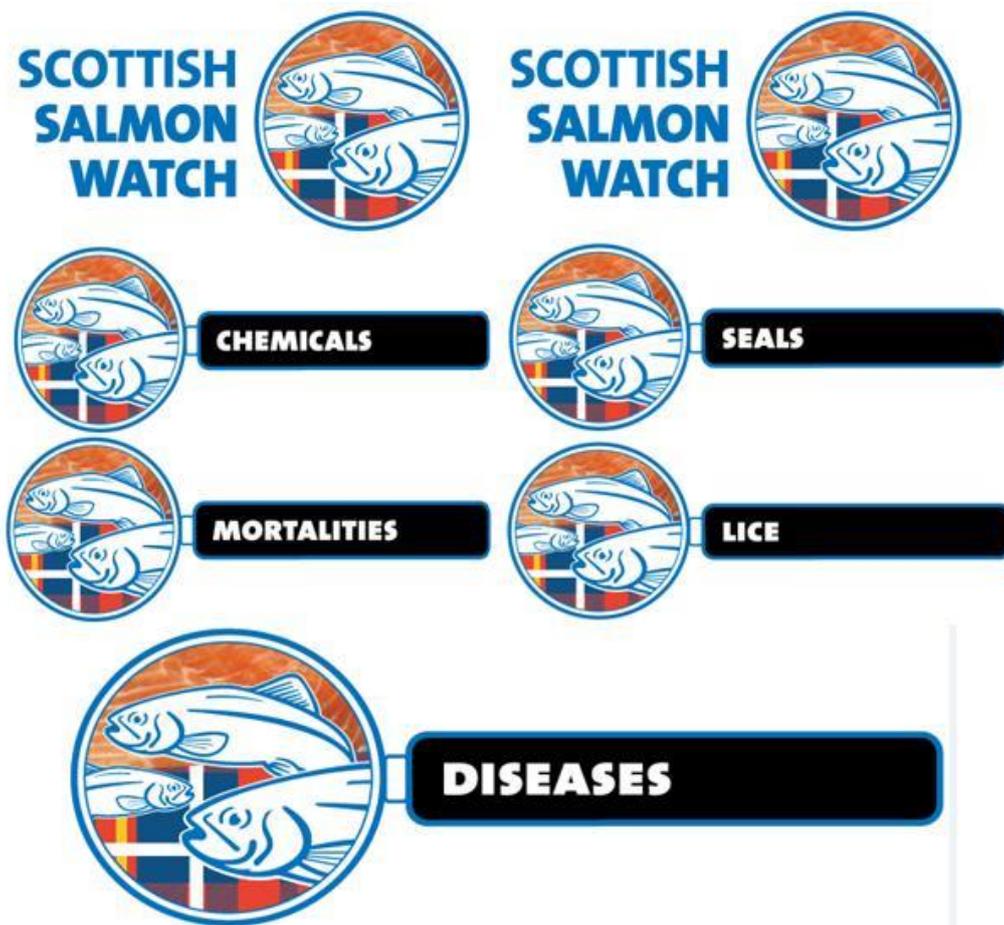


Scottish Salmon Watch, 28 February 2018

### Scrutiny for Scottish Salmon

- New campaign launched: 'Scottish Salmon Watch'
- Scottish Parliamentary inquiry closes in on Scottish salmon farming
- Diseases, Mortalities, Chemicals, Lice & Seal-Killing in spotlight

As a Scottish Parliamentary inquiry closes the net, a new campaign has been launched to bring closer attention to the problems plaguing Scottish salmon farming. ['Scottish Salmon Watch'](#) asks consumers to make a pledge to boycott Scottish salmon. A tip-line has been set up for illegal labelling in supermarkets and alerts for fishy goings on at Scotland's disease-ridden salmon farms.



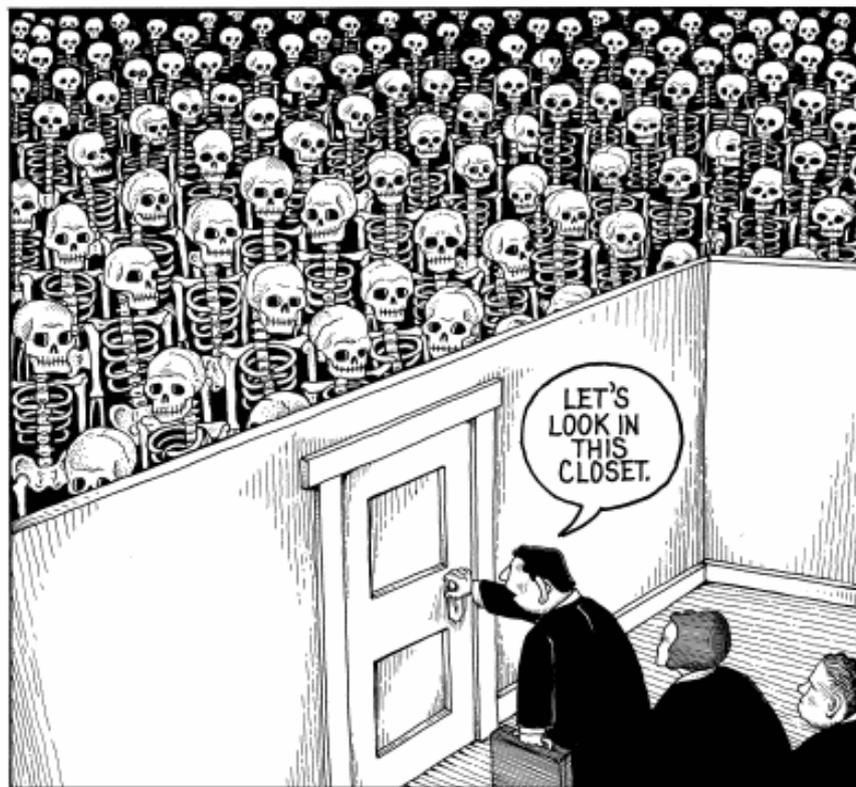
Documents obtained this week via Freedom of Information reveal that the Scottish Salmon Producers Organisation (SSPO), Marine Harvest and the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) met with the Rural Economy & Connectivity Committee [before they agreed their remit for the inquiry and before they officially launched a call for views.](#)

And in an apparent clerical "error", Salmon & Trout Conservation Scotland (the organisation who [filed a petition in 2016 prompting the Scottish Parliament's inquiry into salmon farming](#)) were invited to give evidence but then "disinvited" (FOI reply from the Scottish Parliament to be posted [online here](#) - ref # 2018-600951: PDF files available via [dstaniford@gaaia.org](mailto:dstaniford@gaaia.org)) [1].

Yesterday (27 February) the Scottish Parliament's Environment, Climate Change & Land Reform Committee [met in private](#) to discuss [a draft report on the environmental impacts of salmon farming](#) to be sent to the Rural Economy & Connectivity (REC) Committee with a final report [scheduled for next week](#).

Earlier this month the REC Committee [launched an inquiry](#): "To consider the current state of salmon industry in Scotland, identify opportunities for its future development and explore how the various fish health and environmental challenges it currently faces can be addressed".

According to a [press release issued by the REC Committee](#): "A deadline of 27 April has been given for written submissions. The Committee will produce a report detailing its findings once it has concluded its anticipated evidence taking in March, April and May."



"Scottish salmon is being put under the microscope and will be scrutinised more than ever before," said Don Staniford, Director of [Scottish Salmon Watch](#). "If consumers bother to check what's lurking under the glossy labelling and deceptive advertising they would be shocked to discover an industry plagued by problems. Thankfully, the Scottish Parliament's inquiry is already making people think twice about buying cheap and nasty Scottish salmon. A toxic industry which is infested with parasites; ridden with infectious diseases, viruses and mass mortalities; addicted to hazardous chemicals; uses depleted and contaminated feed; displaces wild fish; and is guilty of slaughtering dozens of seals each year has no place in a sustainable Scotland. Make the pledge today - it's time to boycott Scottish salmon."

Track the Scottish Parliament's inquiry via "[About the Inquiry](#)" including a video report: "[Parliamentary Committee to scrutinise the farmed salmon industry in Scotland](#)" and press

release from the Rural Economy & Connectivity Committee: "[Parliamentary Committee to scrutinise the farmed salmon industry in Scotland](#)".



Parliamentary Committee to scrutinise the farmed salmon industry in Scotland

Read more details via:

[Update: Written evidence to Scottish Parliament salmon farming inquiry](#)

[Holyrood: "Salmon producers agree to publish reports on fish deaths"](#)

[Official Report: Scottish Parliament inquiry into the environmental impacts of salmon farming \(6 Feb\)](#)

[Scottish Parliamentary inquiry calls for more evidence](#)

[Victory for Freedom of Information](#)

[Media Update: Scottish Salmon Pledges to Publish Data on Diseases & Lice Infestations](#)

[Video: Scottish Parliament inquiry into the environmental impacts of salmon farming](#)

[The National: "Scotland's fish farmers to release salmon mortality figures"](#)

[Tweet storm at the Scottish Parliament's salmon farming inquiry](#)

['Militant' MSPs Grill Scottish Salmon](#)

[Update: Scottish Parliament inquiry into the environmental impacts of salmon farming](#)

[The Scottish Salmon Polluters Organisation \(SSPO\)](#)

[Loch Duart - The \(Really Not Very\) Sustainable Salmon Company](#)

[Daily Mail: "Salmon crisis as 2.3m are dumped in nine months"](#)

[The National: "Environmental groups urge Scottish fish farms to scale back"](#)

[Press Release: "Scottish Salmon's Mort Mountain Leaps Over 10 Million - FOI reveals 2.3 million dead salmon at Marine Harvest farms in 2017"](#)

[SSPO "sets the record straight"](#)

[Transcript of Scottish Parliament inquiry into the environmental impacts of salmon farming](#)

[GAAIA's written submission to the Scottish Parliament inquiry](#)

[Review of the Environmental Impacts of Scottish Salmon Farming - call for written evidence \(deadline of 8 February\)](#)

[Daily Mail: "Thousands of fish thrown in a truck - and troubling new questions for salmon farms"](#)

[The Scotsman: "Fish farms increase could lead to more seals being shot"](#)

[Press Release: "Scottish Salmon Farming 101 - Scottish Parliament inquiry opens 'in early 2018'"](#)

[Scottish Salmon Farming 101](#)

[Media Backgrounder: Inquiry into Salmon Farming by the Scottish Parliament](#)

["Parliamentary Question: to ask the Scottish Government how many farmed salmon have died in each year since 2012"](#)

["First Minister questioned on leaking wastes from morts - call for a moratorium from Greens"](#)

["Campaigners say 'no more salmon farms' after disease on Lewis kills 125,000 fish"](#)

Take a closer look at the problems plaguing salmon farms via [Scottish Salmon Watch](#)



**Contact:**

Don Staniford (07771 541826 and [dstaniford@gaaia.org](mailto:dstaniford@gaaia.org))

**Notes to Editors:**

[1] A FOI reply from the Scottish Parliament to the Global Alliance Against Industrial Aquaculture dated 26 February 2018 (to be posted [online here](#) - ref # 2018-600951) included:

You asked the Parliament for emails, letters and other correspondence with the “salmon farming lobby”. We have interpreted this to mean the specific organisations which you have set out in your request i.e. Marine Harvest, the Scottish Salmon Producers Organisation (SSPO) and Scottish Aquaculture Innovation Centre.

Copies of correspondence held have been included in an attachment to this response.

#### REC Committee

In the period between 21 June 2017 and 30 January 2018 the Convener of the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee, accompanied by the Clerk, also met with Marine Harvest and the SSPO. Only some administrative emails relating to the practical organisation of these meetings are held. We presume you do not wish to receive those and have not included them but please let us know if you do.

#### ECCLR Committee

When the Committee agreed the witnesses it wished to invite to give evidence, Salmon and Trout Conservation were not included in this list. This was communicated orally to the Clerks. A subsequent administrative oversight took place in the clerking office and Salmon and Trout Conservation were invited in error. Upon discovery, both Salmon and Trout Conservation and the Committee were informed.

Emails explaining the administrative error have been included in the attachment.

#### REC Committee

In the period between 21 June 2017 and 30 January 2018 the Convener of the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee met with SEPA. He was accompanied by a member of the clerking team. The clerking team has also met with SEPA and Scottish Government officials. Only some administrative emails relating to the practical organisation of these meetings are held. We presume you do not wish to receive those and have not included them but please let us know if you do.

Emails obtained via FOI included correspondence with the SSPO:

**From:** Farrell S (Steve) <Steve.Farrell@parliament.scot>  
**Sent:** 09 August 2017 16:33  
**To:** Julie Edgar  
**Cc:** Lyall HL (Heather); Murrie C (Claire)  
**Subject:** RE: Parliamentary Inquiry

Hi Julie

I hope all is good with you.

Whilst the Committee has agreed in principle to hold the inquiry, pressure of other business means that work is unlikely to commence until early 2018. If work starts then, I would expect the Committee to produce a report of its findings in May/June 2018.

The Committee is likely to consider its approach to the inquiry, agree its terms of reference etc., around November 2017. At that point it may be possible to provide a more definitive timetable.

I hope this is helpful.

Kind regards,

Steve

**Steve Farrell**  
**Clerk to the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee**  
**The Scottish Parliament**

**From:** Julie Edgar  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 09, 2017 10:40 AM  
**To:** Murrie C (Claire)  
**Cc:** Farrell S (Steve)  
**Subject:** Re: Parliamentary Inquiry

Hi Claire

Good luck in your new team – sure the Economy Committee will be a busy and interesting brief. Steve, if you have any thoughts at all on the Inquiry – timing, duration, etc that would be most appreciated!

Kind regards  
Julie

Julie Edgar  
Head of News and PR  
Scottish Salmon

**From:** "Murrie C (Claire)"  
**Date:** Wednesday, 9 August 2017 at 10:03  
**To:** Julie Edgar

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**Cc:** "Farrell S (Steve)"  
**Subject:** RE: Parliamentary Inquiry

Hi Julie

I've actually been meaning to get in touch with you - I moved teams last week and am now working with the Economy Committee.

Steve Farrell, Heather Lyall and Amy Kerr are all still working with the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee and my post has been filled by a job share between Deborah Cook and Jenny Goldsmith – any of the above will be happy to help.

I've copied in Steve so that he can get back to you on any potential salmon farming work. Thanks again for all your help in organising the visit for members.

Best wishes

Claire

**From:** Julie Edgar  
**Sent:** 09 August 2017 07:58  
**To:** Murrie C (Claire)  
**Subject:** Parliamentary Inquiry

Hi Claire

Hope you are well? I was wondering if any decisions had been taken yet regarding the timing of the Parliamentary Inquiry into salmon farming? I have been asked to advise the SSPO Board on this so any thoughts on when and how it will take place would be much appreciated.

Many thanks  
Kind regards  
Julie

Julie Edgar  
Head of News and PR  
Scottish Salmon

Other emails obtained via FOI included the "error" of not inviting Salmon & Trout Conservation to give oral evidence:

**From:** Dey G (Graeme), MSP  
**Sent:** 23 January 2018 09:04  
**To:** Tullis L (Lynn); Cameron D (Donald), MSP  
**Cc:** Proudfoot AD (Andrew); Mouncer J (Jenny); Smith L (Leanne)  
**RE:**  
**Subject:**

This will be discussed at committee in private today.

**From:** Tullis L (Lynn)  
**Sent:** 23 January 2018 08:12  
**To:** Cameron D (Donald), MSP ; Dey G (Graeme), MSP  
**Cc:** Proudfoot AD (Andrew) ; Mouncer J (Jenny) ; Smith L (Leanne)  
**Subject:** RE:

Dear Donald,

Apologies for this situation. We have spoken with Guy (latest yesterday afternoon) and I subsequently emailed him. It is entirely our error and we have apologised profusely to him. Would you like to send on his email and we can respond on behalf of the Committee Office .

Many thanks,

Lynn.

**From:** Cameron D (Donald), MSP  
**Sent:** Monday, January 22, 2018 7:14 PM  
**To:** Tullis L (Lynn) Dey G (Graeme), MSP  
**Subject**

Graeme (cc Lynn)

I have received a fairly cross email from Guy Linley Adams (whom I know very vaguely) at Salmon and Trout complaining about being disinvented from giving evidence on 6th Feb.

I don't think an administrative excuse has placated him but not sure what to say in response. Advice welcome!

Many thanks

Donald

**From:** Guy Linley-Adams  
**Sent:** 17 January 2018 09:51  
**To:** Tullis L (Lynn)  
**Cc:** Smith L (Leanne); Proudfoot AD (Andrew); Mouncer J (Jenny); Creamer L (Lisa)  
**RE:** Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee  
**Subject:**

Dear Lynn

I am surprised to read your email concerning the invitation to S&TCS.

Given it was the S&TCS Petition - <http://www.parliament.scot/GettingInvolved/Petitions/PE01598> - that has prompted the ECCLR and REC Committees to look at the issue, S&TCS would have expected an invitation.

Please could you let me have the full invitation list.

With thanks

Guy Linley-Adams

**From:** Tullis L (Lynn)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 17, 2018 7:56 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Smith L (Leanne); Proudfoot AD (Andrew); Mouncer J (Jenny); Creamer L (Lisa)  
**Subject:** Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee

Dear Mr Linley-Adams,

I am contacting you to thank you for sending a link to the recent report from the Norwegian institute for Nature Research which we will bring to the attention of Members.

I also need to apologise as I am aware that we recently invited you to the ECCLR Committee meeting on 6 February. However there has been an error on our part as the Committee agreed an invitation list for that session (which did not include Salmon and Trout) and subsequently, in error, we attached Salmon and Trout to the list of organisations to be contacted. This is entirely my fault and I apologise on behalf of the clerking team for this mistake.

The Committee understands there will be interest in the report and we will be issuing a call for views once the report is published. We will ensure that you receive a link to that call and to the report.

Please accept my apologies once again and I would be happy to speak to you later today if that is helpful, when I am back in the office.

Kind regards,

Lynn.

Lynn Tullis  
Clerk  
Environment Climate Change and Land Reform Committee

**From:** Guy Linley-Adams [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13 January 2018 11:26  
**To:** EnvironmentClimateChangeandLandReformcommittee  
**Cc:** 'Director S&TCS'  
**Subject:** RE: Invitation to give evidence to ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND LAND REFORM COMMITTEE MEETING - 6 February 2018  
**Attachments:** NINA 1449.pdf

Dear Leanne

Thank you for the invitation.

I will be delighted to give evidence for Salmon and Trout Conservation Scotland on 6<sup>th</sup> February.

In the meantime, I have attached a report published in January 2018 by the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA), commissioned by S&TCS, which is of very great relevance to the Committee's work.

Yours sincerely

Guy Linley-Adams

**From:** EnvironmentClimateChangeandLandReformcommittee [<mailto:ecclr.committee@parliament.scot>]  
**Sent:** 12 January 2018 14:33  
**To:** [hq@salmon-trout.org](mailto:hq@salmon-trout.org)  
**Cc:** [morag@salmon-trout.org](mailto:morag@salmon-trout.org)  
**Subject:** FW: Invitation to give evidence to ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND LAND REFORM COMMITTEE MEETING – 6 February 2018  
**Importance:** High

To whom it may concern,

**ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND LAND REFORM COMMITTEE MEETING – 6 February 2018**

I am writing to invite a representative of your organisation to give evidence at a meeting of the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee. The session will take place on 6 February at the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh from 9.30 am.

**Purpose of Session**

The Committee has agreed to consider the environmental impact of salmon farming in Scotland on the marine environment in advance of the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee's wider inquiry into the salmon farming industry. The ECCLRs Committee's focus will be the report commissioned by SPICE and undertaken by SAMS Research Services Ltd (SRSL). This report is due to be published later in January and will contain a review of literature on the environmental impacts of salmon farming in Scotland, the scale of the impacts and approaches to mitigating the impacts. The Committee will send a copy of this report to you in advance of the meeting.

The Committee will hear from the authors of the report on the 30 January. The purpose of the session on the 6 February is to hear your initial reactions to the research.

We will also be issuing a wider call for evidence when the report is published and you are invited to submit full written evidence to the Committee in response.

If you require any further assistance, please feel free to contact me.

I look forward to your response.

Kind regards,

Leanne

Leanne Smith | Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee |



Before you print think about the environment