

Social sustainability in seafood supply chains

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Jake Norton

- ▶ Bsc (Hons) Marine and Freshwater Conservation from the University of Cumbria
- ▶ Director at The Firth of Forth Lobster Hatchery
- ▶ Formerly worked for Seacliff Fishing creating innovative lobster storage systems and growing seaweed from waste products
- ▶ Moving from production focus to the social impact of the industry



Social welfare in Seafood supply chains: a focus on aquaculture

- ▶ Critically evaluate the benefits, constraints, negative impacts, and gaps in existing social responsibility requirements
- ▶ Analyse key drivers of change in management practices and evaluate their impact on worker welfare and additional impacts on their families/communities
- ▶ Understand local social impact and provide recommendations on how to best improve it to maximise positive social change

Funders



ESTABLISHED 1968

Case studies

Honduran shrimp

- ▶ Whiteleg shrimp (*Litopenaeus vannamei*)
- ▶ Semi intensive culture in ponds
- ▶ Rural farming in mangrove and salt flat habitats
- ▶ Estimated to support around 150,000 direct & indirect jobs (Asociación Nacional de Acuicultores de Honduras, 2022)
- ▶ Shrimp are a major export from Honduras to Europe and US markets



Source: maps.google.com

Case studies

Scottish salmon

- ▶ Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*)
- ▶ Open cage culture
- ▶ Supports rural employment in the highlands and islands of Scotland
- ▶ Employs around 2,300 people directly on farms, with around 10,000 along the supply chain (Salmon Scotland, 2022)
- ▶ Largest food export from Scotland



Source: maps.google.com

A few common themes between the case studies

- ▶ Both are high-value items sold in markets increasingly demanding ethical integrity
- ▶ Farms aim for certification to access foreign markets
- ▶ Key rural employers
- ▶ Activist groups campaigning against the industries
- ▶ Community funds set up to offset negative impacts

Scoping trips

What is social sustainability within the context of aquaculture?

- ▶ Understand the relationships between industry, their employees and communities
- ▶ Through interviews with stakeholders I want to determine:
 - ▶ What is the current impact of the industry on people and society?
 - ▶ What are the key obstacles for a socially sustainable industry?
 - ▶ How do stakeholders perceive that the industry could improve their social impact (if at all)?
- ▶ Ultimately I want to identify key social indicators of social sustainability in these contexts

Thank you!

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Marine SPACE
Sustainability, Policy and
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