

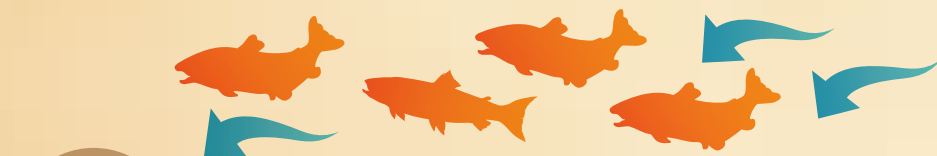
# WHAT IS Open-Pen Finfish AQUACULTURE?

It takes  
**1.5 to 4.9 kg** →

of wild fish to grow one kg of farmed salmon —  
depleting native fish populations worldwide.

Over **2 million**

farmed salmon have escaped from Canadian aquaculture sites since 1987. This number is likely much higher since aquaculture corporations are only obligated to report escapes to the Government, and the Government of Canada does not make this important information readily available to the public.



Escaped salmon compete with native salmon populations for food and other resources. Escaped salmon may also interbreed with native wild salmon reducing its genetic diversity and fitness in wild populations.

Sea lice, bacterial kidney disease, infectious haematopoietic necrosis and infectious salmon anaemia are just a few of the diseases and parasites farmed fish contract that can then transfer to wild fish. When disease strikes, antibiotics, pesticides and/or disinfectants may be prescribed and used or entire cages of fish are destroyed to prevent the spread to other OPFAs.



**22,000 t**  
untreated fecal waste

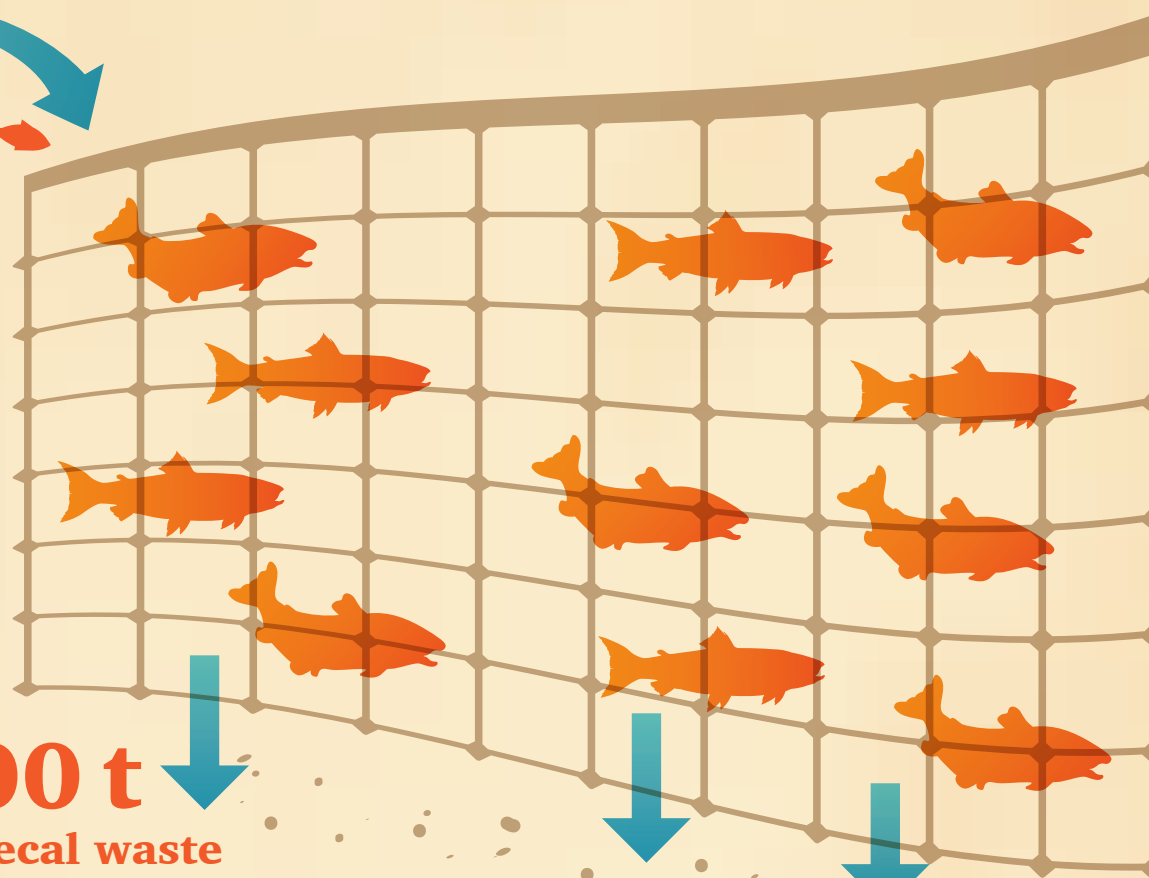
Over **22,000 tonnes** of untreated fecal waste, **3,000 tonnes** of nitrogen, and **300 tonnes** of phosphorus from OPFAs are discharged into coastal waters each year in Canada. That's the equivalent to an annual waste of a city with a population of 300,000 people.

**NO** other industry in Canada is  
allowed to discharge untreated  
waste like this into bodies of water.

→ **Open-pen Finfish Aquaculture (OPFA)**, also known as fish farms, is the farming of fish species like salmon, in marine or freshwater within net pens or cages that are open to the natural environment.

## WHY Open-Pen Finfish Aquaculture Has Got to Go

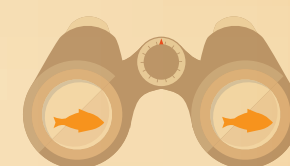
→ The Canadian Wildlife Federation wants OPFA operations shut down and phased out within the next 10 years in Canada. OPFAs alters aquatic habitat and significantly affects native populations of wild salmon and other wildlife.



**N<sup>7</sup>**  
Nitrogen  
**3,000 t**

**P<sup>15</sup>**  
Phosphorus  
**300 t**

**Nitrogen** and **phosphorus** are both nutrients from OPFA fecal waste that cause devastating algal bloom that can rob water of available oxygen, making it difficult for other species to survive.



## WHAT TO LOOK FOR

**1** Farmed salmon isn't the only finfish you need to watch out for on your dinner plate! **Halibut<sup>1</sup>**, **Atlantic cod<sup>2</sup>**, and **trout<sup>3</sup>** are also farmed in OPFAs.



**2** If the label reads Atlantic salmon, you can bet it's probably farmed.

→ There are **NO** legal commercial fisheries for Atlantic salmon in Canada.

**3** **What to eat?** Look for fish raised in land based or closed-contained systems like **tilapia**, **Arctic char** and **rainbow trout**. Visit **oceanwise.ca** for more information.

**MAKE THE PLEDGE**  
**AND AVOID EATING OPFA FARMED SALMON AT**  
[CanadianWildlifeFederation.ca/aquaculture](http://CanadianWildlifeFederation.ca/aquaculture)