



**October 20, 2009**  
**For Immediate Release**  
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**Marine Harvest Canada corrects errors in letter to Minister Steve Thomson.**

Marine Harvest Canada (MHC) has posted information to its website on a farm by farm basis since 2006. The purpose of sharing information is to demonstrate our commitment to transparent communications and specifically to show our successful and effective management of the sea louse parasite.

Used mainly in support of scientific research, Marine Harvest Canada enters into formal data sharing agreements with many international researchers on projects to improve our practices and/or reduce environmental impacts.

However, the website information can sometimes be corrupted or misinterpreted. In these cases, clarification or correction may be necessary.

A recent public letter to the Hon. Steve Thomson uses our website information to allege mysterious losses of fish at several of our sites and insinuates that diseases may have caused large inventory decreases at the farms. The inventory information as reported is in some cases false and in others is due to routine transfer or harvesting. In none of these cases was an outbreak of disease the reason for an inventory decrease.

Specifically:

Brougham Point, July 2009	Decrease due to routine harvesting.
Bickley Bay, 2008	False, no fish present at Bickley Bay in 2008.
Doctor Islet, August 2008	False, no such inventory decrease.
Raynor, September 2009	Decrease due to routine transfer to another farm site.
Lime Point, October 2008	False, no such inventory decrease.
Jackson Pass, August 2009	Decrease due to routine transfer to another farm site.
Okisollo Channel, July 2007	Decrease due to routine harvesting.

“We will continue to be transparent about our farm operations,” says Backman. “We only ask that those who wish to put their own interpretations on some of this information talk to us first to avoid misleading government officials or the public.”

Marine Harvest Canada employs 550 people on Vancouver Island and the central coast and produces some 40,000 tonnes of fresh, high-quality Atlantic salmon for international and domestic markets.

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[www.marineharvestcanada.com](http://www.marineharvestcanada.com)