



January 12, 2009

68800-20/08

To All Licensed British Columbia Aquaculturists:

- **2008 Annual Aquaculture Statistical Reports - due February 16, 2009**
- **Historical AASR - past due**

One third of all seafood harvested in British Columbia in 2007 was produced in fresh and saltwater aquaculture facilities. Production levels among species fluctuated but overall the harvest remained the same as in 2006.

Source: 2007 British Columbia Seafood Industry Year in Review

We were able to generate this information by surveying B.C. aquaculturists.

Each year the Ministry of Environment conducts a census of the seafood industry. For aquaculture production the information is collected under authority of Section 20(1) of the *Fisheries Act* using the Annual Aquaculture Statistical Reports (AASR).

Your contribution to the census is a requirement of your aquaculture licence and ensures that we are collecting complete information on the B.C. aquaculture industry. We appreciate your timely cooperation with our reporting schedule and are always available to assist, should you have questions or concerns.

Enclosed for your convenience, is a 2008 AASR for each of your licensed aquaculture operations. Please ensure that all sections of the report(s) are completed in full for all species, and returned, even if they are "NIL".

To ensure that you or your company is in good standing, all outstanding AASRs must be complete. For any outstanding historical AASR we can generate forms to assist you with meeting your historical reporting requirements.

Please forward completed AASR(s):

- by email to fishstats@gov.bc.ca; or
- by toll free fax to 1 888 356-0358; or
- use the self-addressed, postage-paid envelope provided.

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All AASRs are **due by February 16, 2009**. If you would like us to provide copies for your records, please include a request with your completed report(s).

This year, also find enclosed a copy of the 2007 British Columbia Seafood Industry Year in Review. This publication is utilized when responding to various information requests from industry stakeholders. Data collected from the AASRs is vital to the continuation of this important industry resource.

Be assured that **data from individual forms and companies is protected** within the provisions of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Information contained on the AASR is published only in aggregate form (combined data from three or more companies). However, please be aware that information provided on individual AASRs may be utilized by Ministry of Agriculture and Lands staff as part of their mandate to monitor industry compliance.

Links to the publication as well as other statistical tables and information from 2007 can be viewed at: <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/omfd/fishstats>.

Thank you in advance for your participation. Again, if you have any questions please contact me by phone, fax or email.

Yours truly,



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Enclosures

All statistical reporting forms and letters to industry may be accessed at:
<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/omfd/fishstats/forms>

There are both excel and PDF versions of the forms available for viewing, printing &/or downloading.

Publications and reports may be viewed at:
<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/omfd/reports>