

Welfare at the time of killing - salmon

Iain Berrill


Head of Technical Salmon Scotland



Current activity - UK

- FAWC – Farm Animal Welfare Committee
 - 2014 report
- 2021/22 – AWC – update to report




Scottish Salmon
PRODUCERS ORGANISATION

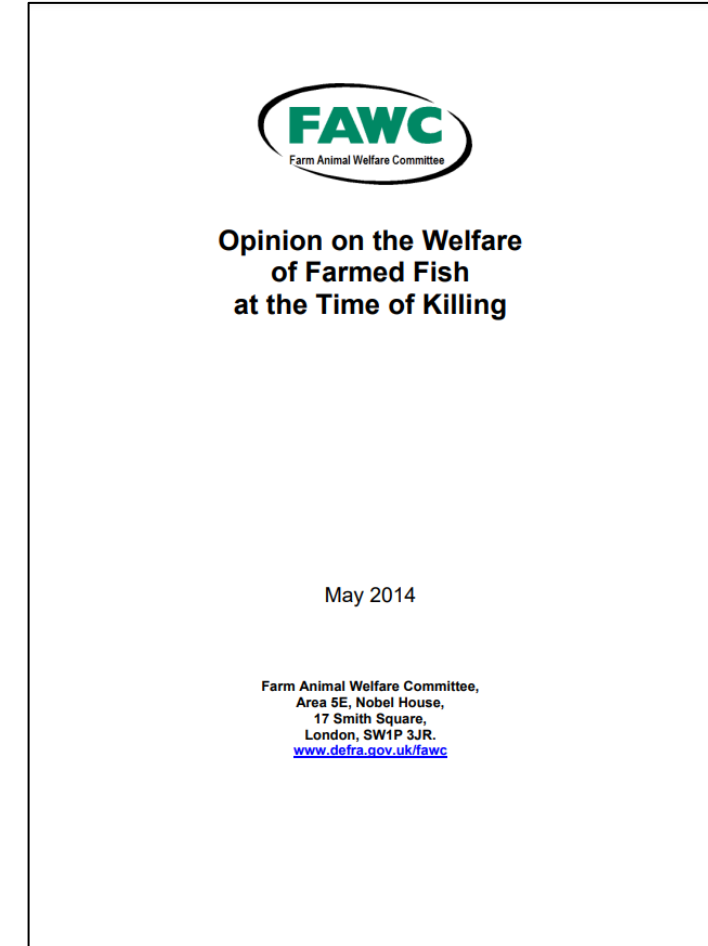
AWC Consultation Response
Farmed Fish Welfare at the Time of Killing

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Name: | Dr. Iain Berrill |
| Date: | 5 th August 2021 |
| Organisation: | Scottish Salmon Producers' Organisation (SSPO) |
| Topic of Consultation Response: | Stakeholder input to be considered by the AWC in updating the 2014 Opinion on the Welfare of Farmed Fish at the Time of Killing. |

The SSPO are happy for the stakeholder input below to be shared internally within the Animal Welfare Committee and ask that prior approval is sought before our stakeholder input is made publicly accessible.

Dr. Iain Berrill
Head of Technical
SSPO

Scottish Salmon Producers' Organisation
3rd Floor, Venue Studios, 21 Calton Road, Edinburgh, EH8 8DL
enquiries@scottishsalmon.co.uk | www.scottishsalmon.co.uk
Reg. SC162347



Legislation



- UK
 - Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006
 - at Article 3.1 of Council Regulation (EC) 1099/2009, that 'animals shall be spared any avoidable pain, distress or suffering during their killing and related operations' (relates to fish)
- Norway
 - Specific legislation
 - Regulations relating to slaughterhouses and production facilities for aquaculture animals**
 - ❖ § 13. *Handling and sedation*
 - ❖ § 14. *Anaesthetic*
 - ❖ § 15. *Euthanasia*
- Ireland
 - Article 3.1 of Council Regulation (EC) 1099/2009
 - Likely general Health and Welfare legislation

Non-regulatory

- Codes of Practice / standards
 - e.g. RSPCA Assured (UK / Ireland) – Scotland = 100% of companies
 - Humane Slaughter Association
 - Other customer
- Importance of these standards should not be underestimated
 - Customer / retailer driven



Practices: Pre-slaughter

- Noting – Harvest vessels and land based facilities
- Pre-harvest considerations
 - Health and welfare of the stock
 - Feed withdrawal
- Crowding
- Pumping onto the wellboat
- Transit to land based harvest facility



Practices: Slaughter

- Pumping onshore
- Option 1) Dewatering
 - Electrical sedation (not all)
 - Transit to stun / bleed equipment
- Option 2) Swim tanks
 - Transit to stun and bleed equipment
- Percussive stun / Bleed



Practices: Post slaughter



- Post stun / bleed checks
- Secondary stun
 - Percussive
 - Electrical (stun!)
- Traceability / quality checks / feedback loop
- Process
 - Time
 - CCTV (RSPCA Assured)

Practices: Other



- Moribund / emergency
- Freshwater
 - Percussive (individuals)
 - Anaesthesia (individuals / higher numbers)
 - Emergency (electrical / anaesthesia)
- Seawater
 - Percussive (individuals)
 - Emergency (population) – expedited harvest / electrical
 - Note (Scotland) – no anaesthesia (Environmental regulations)

Other information

- Training
 - Veterinary involvement
 - Health and welfare
 - Trained individuals
- Key drivers:
 - Ethical and Moral
 - Legal
 - Quality
 - Commercial / retail
 - Reputation
 - Economic



Thank you...

- Questions?

