

From: [Marty, Gary D AGRI:EX](#)
To: ["Warheit, Kenneth J \(DFW\)"](#)
Subject: Information about the threat of escaped Atlantic salmon
Date: Thursday, August 31, 2017 8:56:00 AM

Hi Ken,

I am following news reports about the escaped Atlantic salmon from the Cooke facility. I find interesting the contrast in perceptions over the span of ~35 years:

1980s: "Numerous attempts have been made in the 20th century by agencies on the Pacific coast to introduce and establish Atlantic salmon. The most recent attempt by WDFW was in 1981 when attempted introductions were made via the release of cultured Atlantic salmon smolts. No adult Atlantic salmon adults returned as a result of the releases."

Source: http://wdfw.wa.gov/ais/salmo_salar/

Today: "'This is a serious environmental spill,' said Cori Simmons with the Washington State Department of Natural Resources."

Source: <http://q13fox.com/2017/08/26/state-agencies-unify-response-to-serious-atlantic-salmon-spill/>

I find the summary of this issue by the Monterey Bay Aquarium's Seafood Watch program to be very thorough; for example,

"Despite at least 170 deliberate historic attempts to establish Atlantic salmon in 34 states in North America, Waknitz et al. (2002) reported that none had succeeded, and although Atlantic salmon regularly occur in B.C. rivers and are caught in Alaska, the numbers are generally sparse and, in the case of Piccolo and Orlikowski (*sic*) (2012), include no data since 2002."

AND

"Atlantic salmon are, therefore, now considered highly unlikely to establish in BC, and currently there is no evidence of any significant impacts of escaping Atlantic salmon in BC."

Piccolo, J. and E. Orlikowska 2012. A biological risk assessment for an Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) invasion in Alaskan waters. *Aquatic Invasions* 7(2): 259-270.

Waknitz FW, Tynan TJ, Nash CE, Iwamoto RN, Rutter LG. 2002. Review of potential impacts of Atlantic salmon culture on Puget Sound chinook salmon and Hood Canal summer-run chum salmon evolutionarily significant units. U.S. Department of Commerce. NOAA Technical Memo. NMFS–NWFSC–53, 83 p.

Source: https://www.seafoodwatch.org/-/m/sfw/pdf/reports/s/mba_seafoodwatch_farmedbcsalmon_report.pdf

[if clicking does not work, copy and paste URL to browser.]

Best regards,

Gary

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From: Warheit, Kenneth I (DFW)
To: [Marty, Gary D AGRI:EX](#)
Subject: Automatic reply: Information about the threat of escaped Atlantic salmon
Date: Thursday, August 31, 2017 8:57:11 AM

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need immediate assistance please contact: Todd Seamons (Todd.Seamons@dfw.wa.gov, for Genetics), Nicole Jensen (Nicole.Jensen@dfw.wa.gov, for Fish Health Lab), or Todd Kassler (Todd.Kassler@dfw.wa.gov) for everything else. Otherwise, I will get back to you as soon as I can.

Thank you,

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