

Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch

SEAFOOD WATCH® AQUACULTURE CRITERIA

SUMMARY OF UPDATES

1st and 2nd public comment period

General

1. Combined all text in Background and Rationale sections into a single section, 'Background & Rationale,' at the beginning of each criterion.
2. Added situations in which Critical scores would be assigned within each criterion's Background & Rationale section.
3. Added specific scoring pieces into Effluent, Chemical, Habitat, and Feed for illegal activities.
4. Increased the weighting for Area based management systems in the Effluent and Habitat criteria.
5. Included more scoring options where information is unknown.

Criterion 1 – Data

1. Under the Management category, added guidance for situations in which management/regulatory requirements are not available in the English language.
2. Under the Disease Category, added "regulations and emergency responses" to potential data sources.
3. 12 Criteria up from 10 (explicit inclusion of Energy Use, Management, and removal of "other")
4. Data can now be counted as a red in Decision Rules

Criterion 2 – Effluent

1. For Factor 2.2, the descriptive language for each factor 2.2a and 2.2b has been revised.
2. In Factor 2.1b, calculated adjustments for new basic score (0.42) for ponds with daily exchange of <3%.

3. Restructured management questions to address cumulative issues better
4. Added illegal activities scoring options
5. Added plastics as part of the effluent definition
6. Restructured management questions to address cumulative issues better
7. Added plastics as part of the effluent definition

Criterion 3 – Habitat

1. Changed historical impacts from 10 to 15 years (to keep pace with Ramsar)
2. Restructured management questions to address cumulative issues better

Criterion 4 – Chemical Use

1. Implemented the requirement for Data score for Chemical category to be ≥ 7.5 for Chemical criterion to score ≥ 8 .
2. Included option for score increase with strong data indicating a decrease in chemical use

Criterion 5 – Feed

1. Revised the Critical scoring option of aquaculture operations sourcing feed ingredients from IUU fisheries to specify $\geq 25\%$ of the fishery to be operating as IUU; this is to maintain consistency with the Seafood Watch Fisheries Criteria.
2. Changed Fish In: Fish Out (FIFO) terminology to Feed Fish Efficiency Ratio (FFER)

Criterion 6 – Escapes

1. Moved “Tank-based recirculation systems with appropriate (multiple) screens, water treatment, or secondary capture devices” from score of 8 to score of 10, but changed “or” to “and.”
2. Separated the Recapture & Mortality scoring adjustment, such that a Recapture scoring adjustment remains in the scoring table for Factor 6.1, Escape Risk, and post-escape mortality has been incorporated in the scoring table for Factor 6.2, Invasiveness.
3. Combined Native and Non-Native scoring into a single table
4. Added option for net pens to score Yellow (4 or 6 of 10) with good data over a 10 years period (Factor 6.1).

Criterion 7 – Disease

1. Added scoring options for the existence and robustness of biosecurity management measures to prevent the occurrence and spread of disease between farm sites and from farm sites to wild species.
2. Separated the criterion into an evidence based or risk based approach based on quality of data available (same structure as Effluent criterion).

Criterion 8X – Source of Stock

1. Changed to Exceptional criterion
2. Added “Critical” Category for sourcing endangered species

Criterion 9X – Wildlife and Predator Interactions (No changes made)**Criterion 10X – Escape of Unintentionally Introduced Species**

1. Revised placement of tank-based recirculation systems within scoring table for Factor 10Xb to match change to scoring of tank-based recirculation systems in Criterion 2 – Effluent.