

Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch®

Seafood Watch® DRAFT Energy (GHG Emissions) Criteria for Fisheries and Aquaculture

Public Consultation 2 Comment Form

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Public comment guidance - This section contains the draft guiding principle for the Energy (GHG Emissions) Criteria, which has been edited since the first public consultation to acknowledge the contribution of GHGs to the acceleration of climate change and to acknowledge that GHG emissions from food production are a significant fraction of anthropogenic GHG emissions. We welcome suggestions for further improvements.

Comment

This section is clear and to the point. The FAO reference is perfect. It might be worthwhile to add a household footprint reference to help the reader understand the importance of their food emissions relative to their other emissions (vehicle fuel, home electricity, etc.). The Jones reference below is one possibility although this isn't open source. Another option is to reference an online household footprint tool such as <http://coolclimate.berkeley.edu/calculator>.

Christopher M. Jones and Daniel M. Kammen, Quantifying Carbon Footprint Reduction Opportunities for U.S. Households and Communities. Environ. Sci. Technol., 2011, 45 (9), pp 4088–4095

Public comment guidance - This section contains an overview of GHGs associated with seafood (and other protein) production methods, the draft rationale and summary for the Energy (GHG Emissions) Criteria for fisheries and aquaculture. This section has been edited since the first public consultation to include the overview of GHG emissions from fisheries and aquaculture. It also contains information about the GHG emissions included in our approach comparing up to the farm gate/dock emissions from seafood to land-based proteins (poultry and beef). In addition, we've clarified that we will be using the median values for comparative protein GHG intensities. Seafood Watch would like to be able to supplement or find replacement values for these comparative GHG intensities which factor soil CO₂ emissions into total GHG emissions, and welcome suggestions for comprehensive, robust values calculated with a uniform methodology for at least poultry and beef.

Comment

The revised overview of GHG emissions is thorough but nicely succinct. The McKuin and Campbell reference is now In Review (instead of In Preparation).

McKuin, B & J.E. Campbell. Emissions and climate forcing from global and Arctic fishing vessels. Journal of Geophysical Research: Atmospheres.

Public comment guidance - This section contains the introduction to the Fisheries Energy (GHG Emissions) Criterion. This section is substantively unchanged from the first consultation draft. Feedback on the methodology is requested in the Methods section. We are not requesting feedback on this section, but feel free to comment on this general background information.

Comment

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Public comment guidance - This section contains the methodology for the Fisheries GHG Emissions Criterion and is substantively unchanged from the first consultation draft, except for the inclusion of example results in Figure 1 and the addition of a section on data collection. General feedback is welcome.

Comment

Public comment guidance - This section contains the introduction to the Aquaculture GHG emission Criterion. Feedback on the methodology is requested in the Methods section. We are not requesting feedback on the introduction, but feel free to comment on this general background information.

Comment

Public comment guidance - This section contains the methodology for the Aquaculture GHG Emissions Criterion. This criterion is less well developed than the fisheries criterion, primarily due the greater complexity of assessing the GHG emissions of aquaculture operations and the very limited data available. Changes made to this section since the first public consultation include 1) a tiered approach to evaluating GHG emissions associated with feed based on data availability 2) data from a literature review of farm level energy use and feed energy 3) factoring in non-energy GHG emissions from both feed and farm level activities where this data is available 4) Separation out of sections on data collection and communicating GHG intensity values General feedback on the development of this criterion is welcome, and specific information on GHG emissions associated with feed production and farm level activities would be greatly appreciated. In particular, guidance on where to obtain data to calculate GHG Intensity where the specific feed ingredients can be identified would be greatly appreciated.

Comment