



Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch

New and Updated Ratings

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New Ratings

Species	Scientific Name	Location	Method	Rating	Justification
Swordfish	<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	United States - Eastern Central Atlantic Ocean	Buoy gear	Best Choice	Swordfish caught in the U.S. Atlantic with buoy gear is rated a Best Choice due to green Target Species, Management, and Habitat ratings. The swordfish population is healthy, and effective management includes precautionary measures to prevent overfishing. However, bycatch of several shark species occurs, but not in quantities to cause population-level impacts. Buoy gear doesn't contact the seafloor, and policies to protect the ecosystem have recently been implemented.

Updated Ratings

Species	Scientific Name	Location	Method	Previous Rating	Updated Rating	Justification
Salmon, Atlantic	<i>Salmo salar</i>	Faroe Islands - Northeast Atlantic Ocean	Marine net pens	Good Alternative	Good Alternative	Atlantic salmon farmed in the Faroe Islands in marine net pens remains a Good Alternative due to yellow or green ratings for all criteria. Effluent wastes pollute the seabed at about half of the farm sites, but there's little evidence of any impact at the waterbody or regional levels. Antimicrobials to treat disease have not been used since 2003. On average, pesticides to treat sea lice are used approximately once per site per year, and there remains some concern with the development of resistance by the sea louse population. Feed use is a moderate concern, with approximately 1.6 metric tons of wild fish used to produce one metric ton of farmed salmon. Substantial numbers of farmed salmon have escaped, but wild Atlantic salmon populations have never existed in Faroe Islands rivers, so there are no concerns about genetic impacts from escaped salmon. Also, the stocking of salmon (and sea trout) in rivers has occurred since the 1940s. Research into the effects of sea lice from salmon farms on wild sea trout is developing, but to date is inconclusive. The industry used to cull hundreds of grey seals annually. However, following a long-term decline and a ban on the practice in 2020, mortalities no longer affect the seal population. The industry still relies on imported salmon eggs from Iceland and Norway and lumpfish (used to control sea lice) from Iceland, but the risk of introducing non-native species during transport is minimal. Lastly, the data availability is good.

Species	Scientific Name	Location	Method	Previous Rating	Updated Rating	Justification
Trout, Rainbow	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	Chile - Southeast Pacific Ocean (Region X – Los Lagos)	Marine net pens	Good Alternative	Avoid	Rainbow trout farmed in Chile’s Region X (Los Lagos) in marine net pens has been downgraded to an Avoid rating due to red Chemicals and Escapes ratings. The high use of antimicrobials and pesticides to control bacterial diseases and parasitic sea lice and the potential development of antimicrobial resistance across Chile are significant concerns. In Region X, rainbow trout are treated, on average, 1.17 times per site per year with antimicrobials listed as highly important for human medicine by the World Health Organization and are also treated multiple times with pesticides. Determining the origin, drivers, and scale of resistance is challenging, and this is an active area of research in Chile. Still, the widespread, repetitive, and prolonged use of antimicrobials on rainbow trout (and Atlantic salmon) farms likely contributes to resistance. In addition, large-scale escape events and trickle losses continue to occur. Even though rainbow trout are established in the wild due to historical stocking, escaped farmed trout pose a high risk to wild, native species through predation and resource competition.
Trout, Rainbow	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	Chile - Southeast Pacific Ocean (Region XI - Aysén)	Marine net pens	Good Alternative	Avoid	Rainbow trout farmed in Chile’s Region XI (Aysén) in marine net pens has been downgraded to an Avoid rating due to red Chemicals and Escapes ratings. The high use of antimicrobials and pesticides to control bacterial diseases and parasitic sea lice and the potential development of antimicrobial resistance across Chile are significant concerns. In Region XI, rainbow trout are treated, on average, 1.27 times per site per year with antimicrobials listed as highly important for human medicine by the World Health Organization and are also treated multiple times with pesticides. Determining the origin, drivers, and scale of resistance is challenging, and this is an active area of research in Chile. Still, the widespread, repetitive, and prolonged use of antimicrobials on rainbow trout (and Atlantic salmon) farms likely contributes to resistance. In addition, large-scale escape events and trickle losses continue to occur. Even though rainbow trout are established in the wild due to historical stocking, escaped farmed trout pose a high risk to wild, native species through predation and resource competition.

Species	Scientific Name	Location	Method	Previous Rating	Updated Rating	Justification
Trout, Rainbow	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	Chile - Southeast Pacific Ocean (Region XII - Magallanes)	Marine net pens	Good Alternative	Avoid	Rainbow trout farmed in Chile's Region XII (Magallanes) in marine net pens has been downgraded to an Avoid rating due to red Effluent and Escapes ratings. Chemical use is a concern across most of Chile's rainbow trout production areas, but the incidence of bacterial diseases and parasitic sea lice is currently relatively low in Region XII. Antimicrobials are used 0.3 times per site per year, but the chemicals used are considered highly important for human medicine by the World Health Organization, and there's a high concern for the development of antimicrobial resistance across Chile. These factors indicate that judicious use must be a top priority. In addition, the carrying capacity of Chile's fjords and the cumulative effluent impacts of the salmonid industry are not well understood. Effluent impacts on the seabed can be substantial, and compliance with impact thresholds is poor in Region XII, which is particularly concerning given the ongoing expansion of production. Furthermore, large-scale escape events and trickle losses continue to occur. Even though rainbow trout are established in the wild due to historical stocking, escaped farmed trout pose a high risk to wild, native species through predation and resource competition, especially in Region XII, which is considered an ecologically pristine habitat.