

Cold Ocean Salmon Inc.

December 23, 2020

Statement regarding the suspected detection of federally reportable diseases for a licensed aquaculture site

In accordance with the Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture policy AP 17, Cold Ocean Salmon Inc. publicly advises that the company received a suspected detection of Infectious Salmon Anaemia virus (ISAv) at The Matchems (AQ# 826) marine cage site. The site is located next to Robin Hood Cove in Newfoundland and Labrador and the affected cage is stocked with 63,000 Atlantic salmon.

The Infectious Salmon Anemia virus (ISAv) is a naturally occurring virus in the environment and is not a human health issue or a food safety issue as determined by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). All farmed fish are disease free when they enter marine farms. ISAv is commonly carried by a variety of wild fish in many parts of the world, including eastern Canada and the United States. These include Atlantic herring, Atlantic cod, Atlantic salmon and brown trout.

When ISAv is present, salmon farmers notify regulators and immediately initiate strict biosecurity and containment measures to protect the health of the fish and the environment. Farmers or farming practices do not create the virus problem – but farmers have to manage it.

The company is taking all the responsible steps under the oversight of the Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture and is following government approved policies for reporting.

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