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SEA WATCH pollution • Anti-fish farm activist's numbers don't add up • Passing thoughts about wild salmon near fish farms • What Canadians

CANADA



September 11, 2019

Seaweed sleuth offers a 'kelp-ing' hand for B.C.'s coastal communities

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Cascadia Seaweed aims to become the largest producer of seaweed in the Pacific Northwest

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VANCOUVER ISLAND | News

Cash crop: Vancouver Island seaweed producer banking on big bite of consumer market

Scott Cunningham Journalist, CTV Vancouver Island
@CTVNewsScott1Contact

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Cascadia expects to have products on the shelves of B.C. grocery stores by the summer of 2020. (Cascadia Seaweed)

MOST-WATCHED



Victoria reacts to Biden inauguration



Melania Trump's remarks after leaving White House

TIME JOE BIDEN'S INAUGURATION CONGRESS REMAINS DIVIDED CORONAVIRUS STATS NEWSLETTERS SUBSCRIBE

The Ocean Farmers Trying to Save the World With Seaweed



Amy McConnell, a Canadian Kelp Resources Ltd. lab technician, holds up a piece of giant kelp in the Trevor Channel on Vancouver Island, on Aug. 19, 2020.

Kelp Farming in British Columbia

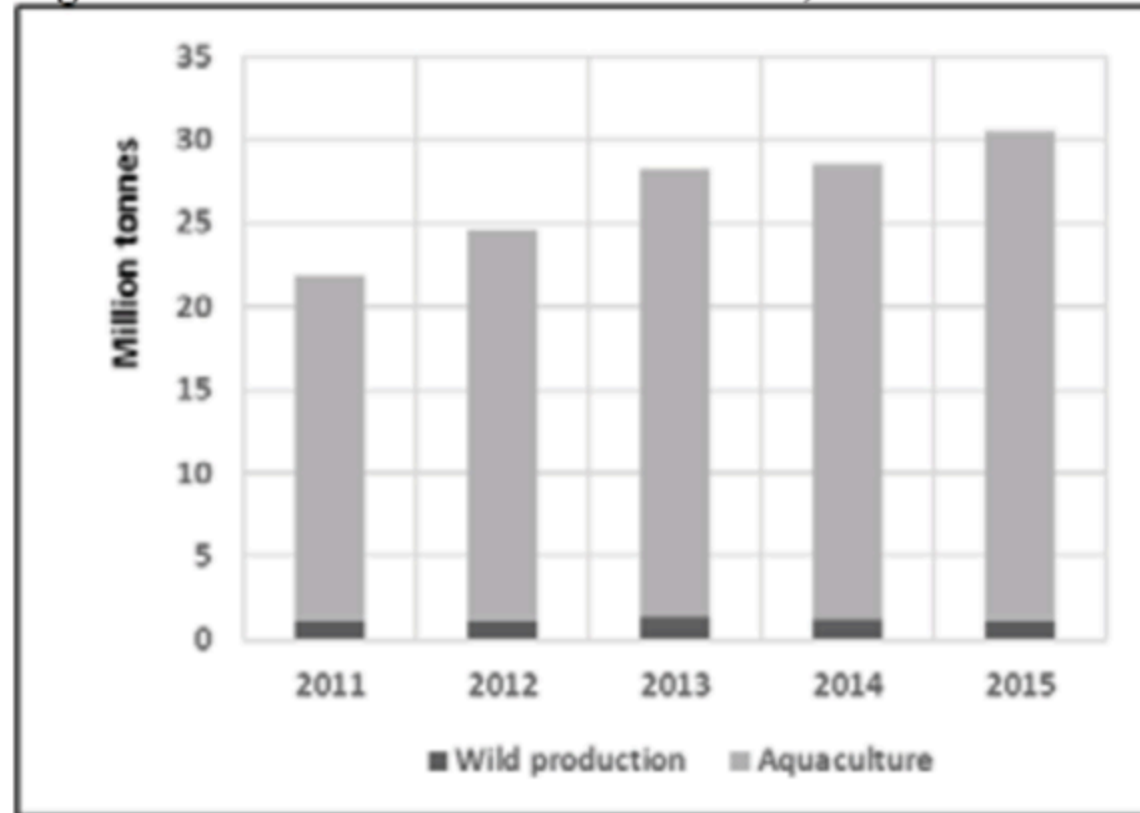
Environmental and Economic Impacts of a Rapidly Emerging Industry

Alexander Dungate - January 21, 2021

Context: The Global Seaweed Industry

- \$6.4 billion (USD) industry
 - FAO predicts \$22.1 billion (USD) by 2024
- Harvested in ~50 countries
 - 99% from Asia, some from Europe, and a little from NA & Africa
- Global production doubled 2005-2015
 - Wild harvesting remains static

Figure 1. World: Production of seaweed, 2011–2015



Source: FAO.

<http://www.fao.org/in-action/globefish/publications/details-publication/en/c/1154074/>

<https://www.bcbusiness.ca/BC-kelp-farming-is-untapped-resource>

Economic & Social Benefits in BC

- Uses for kelp:
 - Food
 - Fresh: seaweed salads, kelp noodles
 - Dried: soups, pastas
 - Dietary supplements: (iodine, calcium, iron)
 - Fertilizer
 - Animal Feed
 - **Sodium alginate**
 - Bioplastics → BioForm Solutions (From UBC!)
- Cascadia Seaweed
 - Employment for First Nations and remote communities



Ecological Benefits of Kelp Farming

- Provides habitat for marine life
- Carbon sink + oxygen production
- Absorbs excess nutrients
 - Fish/Shellfish farms
 - Dr. Steven Cross
 - Associate professor & director of the Coastal Aquaculture Research & Training (CART) Network at the University of Victoria.
 - Co-Founder of Cascadia
- Reduction of methane emission from cows

<https://www.nic.bc.ca/life-at-nic/research/carti/projects/sustainable-aquaculture/>

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/aquaculture/seaweed-aquaculture>

Photo by [Brent Storm](#) on [Unsplash](#)



Bonus Slide: How to Start a Kelp Farm

- **Summary:** You need **\$10'000** and **1.5-2 years** from permit application to first harvest.
- **Contact:** Nichole Prichard. Head of *Aquaculture (West Coast)* for the *Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development*
- **Applications & Fees:**
 - **50\$ Culture Application fee** (approval for the species you want to grow)
 - **1260\$ Shellfish Land Tenure Application Fees** (yes even though you will not be growing any shellfish)
 - This is processed by the DFO + Transport Canada.
 - DFO Provides environmental *recommendations* (should be fine for kelp).
 - Transport Canada actually provides the *permit*.
 - **Alternatively: 800\$ Shellfish Land Tenure Amendment Application Fee** if you partner with a fish farm and amend their tenure agreement.
 - **600\$ + [unknown]\$/Acre for** annual rent from BC Government
 - Approval from Transport Canada, no fees tied to this application “yet”. (There will be fees in the future)
 - DFO: Nothing if you only grow plants.
- **Timeline:**
 - Application process takes >1 year.
 - Faster if you get First Nation approval before hand
 - The Province will run it by all relevant First Nations communities. If consulted, the First Nations can ask for accommodation or to be part of the deal.
- **Other interesting info:**
 - If you just want to experiment, you can deploy lines within the area of a pre-existing fish farm. No applications are needed here, as long as you do not sell the kelp, and it cannot be used for human consumption.

Other Sources

- News Articles

- <https://seawestnews.com/seaweed-sleuth-offers-a-kelp-ing-hand-for-b-c-s-coastal-communities/>
- <https://vancouverisland.ctvnews.ca/cash-crop-vancouver-island-seaweed-producer-banking-on-big-bite-of-consumer-market-1.5088353>
- <https://time.com/5848994/seaweed-climate-change-solution/>
- <https://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/what-on-earth-regenerative-ocean-farming-1.5608258>
- <https://www.bcbusiness.ca/BC-kelp-farming-is-untapped-resource>
- <https://seawestnews.com/burping-cows-breathe-new-life-into-aquaculture-for-bc/>