

Stakeholder Consultation Workshop

Cleaner Fish Health and
Welfare Indicators

September – October 2023



**Setting The
Standard for
Seafood**



Background information

Cleaner fish in the ASC standards

Up until now...

- The only mention to cleaner fish in the ASC Salmon Standard v1.4 is in criterion 3.2, which allows for the use of only cleaner fish native to each salmon farming region.

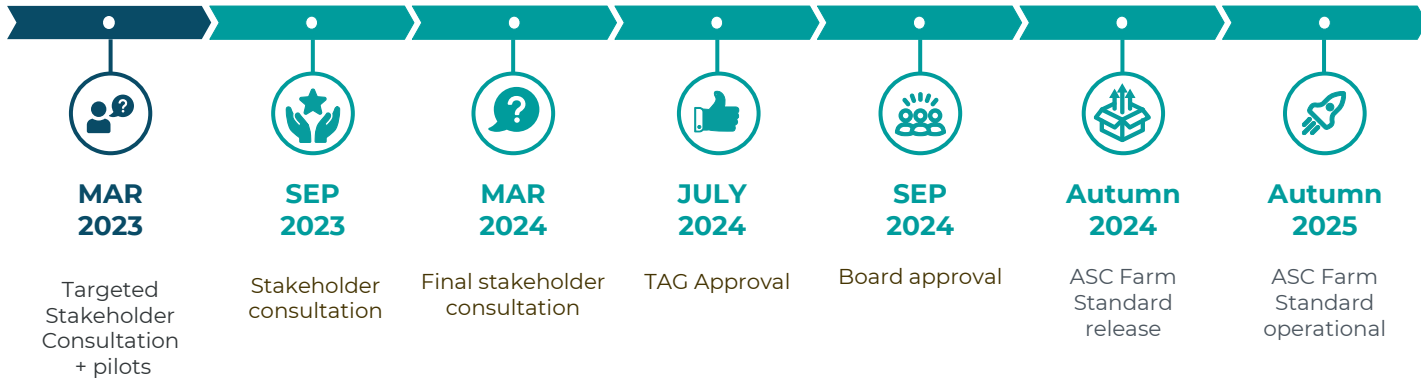
Reality...

- Cleaner fish were highlighted as a topic needing urgent attention during the September-October 2022 Stakeholder Consultation.

Going forward...

- Cleaner fish health and welfare will be covered within the ASC Farm Standard.
- A Cleaner Fish Technical Working Group of experts was put together to develop the new content.

Timeline



Topic proposal

ASC Farm Standard



2.14 Fish Health and Welfare

- 2.14a Day to day
- 2.14b Handling
- 2.14c Slaughter



2.15 Sea lice



2.16 Veterinary therapeutics



Cleaner Fish

- Broaden scope
- Modify
- Create

Summary of changes

Topic	Existing	New
Hatchery origin	Selection of several indicators from 2.14 and 2.16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Risk based vaccination plan.• Acclimatation period.• Mortality and deformity reduction programs.• Minimum transport time 4h.
Wild caught origin	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comply with legislation.• Use adequate gear.• Ensure good welfare.• Minimise disease transmission.• Minimise genetic introgression.• Training.

Topic	Existing	New
Routine health and welfare	2.14a (including OWI monitoring)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-deployment risk assessment. • Quality checks. • Hides/refugees. • Transfer best practices. • Feed and sea lice management. • Report stocking rates and survival rates.
Therapeutants	2.16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment or culling of sick animals.

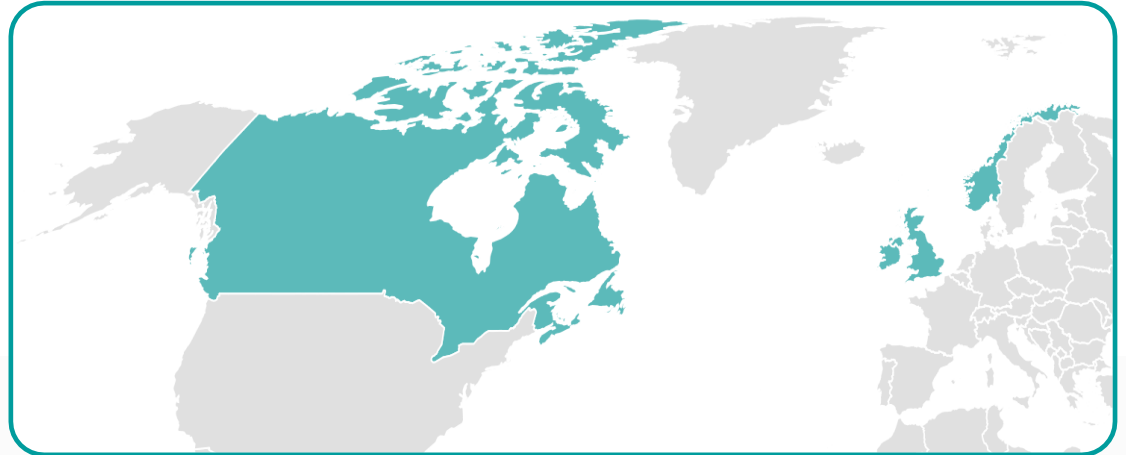
Topic	Existing	New
Handling	2.14b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max time out of the water: 15 seconds • Max starvation time: 48h. • Cleaner fish segregation .
Slaughter	2.14c	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same timing as salmon. • Welfare officer .
Reuse	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only one reuse allowed. • Risk assess reuse (including health assessment). • Segregation at salmon site.

Stakeholder consultation: Objectives

Cleaner Fish Health and Welfare

September – October 2023

- To receive stakeholder feedback on proposed content rather than format.
- All feedback is welcomed, but specific focus on producers, retailers, NGOs, CABs, primary processors, and academia.
- Outreach mechanisms:
 - Online survey
 - Workshops
 - 1:1 conversations



Consultation Questions



General questions

CF 1. Do you think ASC should allow the use of wild caught cleaner fish?

- Yes
- No

CF 2. Do you agree with the following: Access to feed should be available to cleaner fish daily and not withdrawn with the purpose of sea lice control?

- Yes
- No

CF 3. Do you agree with the following: the salmon site shall segregate cleaner fish in advance of any salmonid handling that requires removal of fish from the pens and for which the cleaner fish do not have a treatment need.

- Yes
- No

CF 9. Do you think ASC should allow cleaner fish reuse?

- Yes
- No

CF 10. Should ASC allow more than single reuse of cleaner fish?

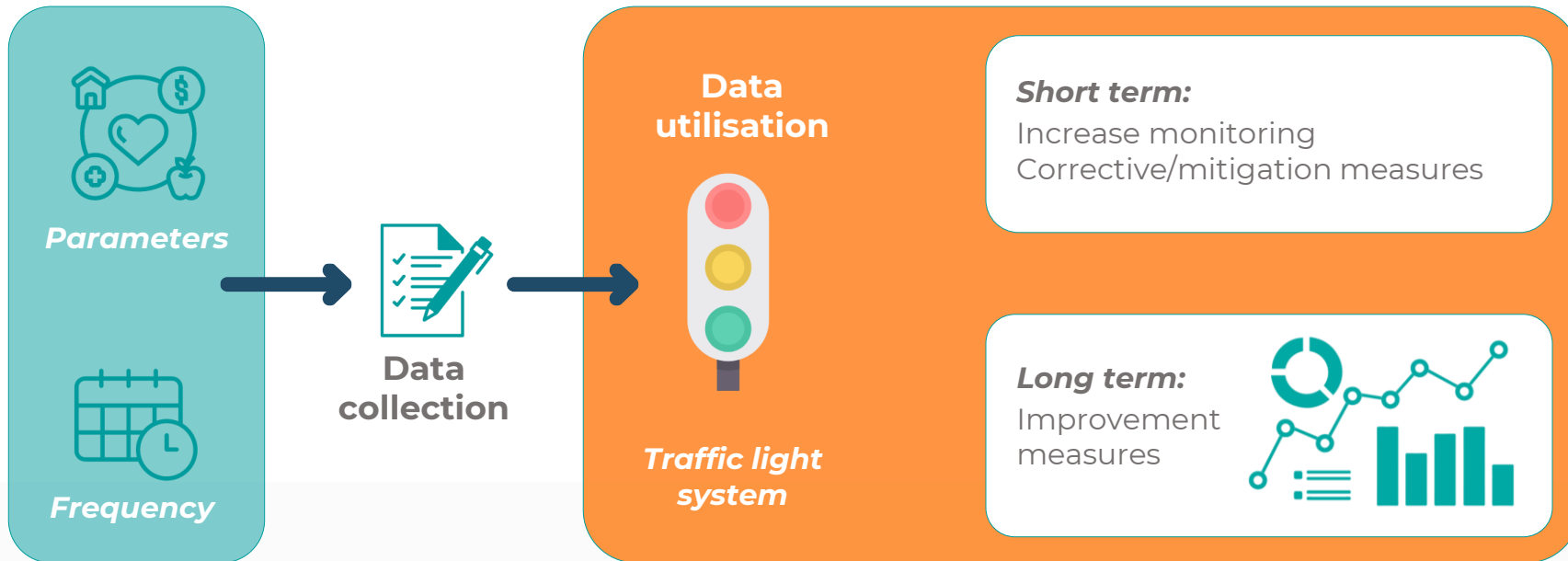
- Yes
- No

Specific question

CF 4. Indicator 2.14a.16 f) to j) - Do you think it is realistic to develop and implement these monitoring programmes using the operational welfare indicators (OWI's) for cleaner fish?

- Yes
- No

OWI monitoring



CF 8. Do you consider that the timeline given to implement cleaner fish slaughter requirements is sufficient?

- Yes
- No

Permitted methods of stunning	Species								
	Salmon	Trout (FW & SW)	Seabass, seabream, meagre	Pangasius	Tilapia	Seriola	Cobia	Flatfish	Marine Tropical
Percussion	✓	✓				✓	✓		✓
Electrical	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Transition period	Immediate	1 year	3 years	3 years	3 years	3 years	3 years	3 years	3 years

You want to get involved?

Email: consultation@asc-aqua.org or Meritxell.Diez-Padrisa@asc-aqua.org

Proposal (link)

Online survey
(link)

1:1
conversations

Public
workshops
[dates and link]

FAQ [link]

Thank you



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