



OUR PATH TO 100% AQUACULTURE STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL (ASC) CERTIFICATION

GSI'S COMMITMENT

All GSI members are committed to achieving 100% ASC certification of their farms. At the time of the GSI launch, no salmon farm in the world was ASC certified.

WHAT IS ASC CERTIFICATION?

- ASC is the most stringent and all-encompassing certification for aquaculture as it monitors and measures every aspect of a farm's environmental and social performance
- It requires compliance with, or demonstration of, progress toward more than 150 different indicators
- ASC provides assurance to our customers and local communities that we are operating responsibly, and that our farmed salmon meet all the requirements for a healthy and sustainable product
- As a science-based standard, the ASC is continually reviewed and updated to ensure it is in-line with evolving industry best-practices

The progress with ASC certification is the **fastest uptake at scale of any certification... and this result would not have been possible without collaboration and commitment of the GSI members.**

World Wildlife Fund

“ When done responsibly, aquaculture presents a viable solution to meeting the increasing demand for seafood from a growing population. ASC certification helps ensure that aquaculture’s impact on wild fish populations, marine habitats and water quality and society can be significantly and measurably reduced. ”

Jason Clay, SVP of Market Transformation,
World Wildlife Fund

WHY ASC CERTIFICATION?

We wanted to set the bar high. The status quo was no longer good enough and we wanted to set an ambitious target to work towards, and have a benchmark to be held accountable to. The ASC is seen as the ‘gold standard’ in aquaculture with its rigorous assessment of environment and social impact and focus on improvements. It is not enough to simply say that we are changing and improving the sustainability of the salmon farming industry, we need to demonstrate the change with third-party validation.



ASC'S SEVEN PRINCIPLES

- 1 Legal compliance (obeying the law, the legal right to operate)
- 2 Preservation of the natural environment and biodiversity
- 3 Preservation of water resources
- 4 Preservation of diversity of species and wild populations (e.g. preventing escapes which could pose a threat to wild fish)
- 5 Responsible use of animal feed and other resources
- 6 Ensuring good animal health (e.g. no unnecessary use of antibiotics and chemicals)
- 7 Ensuring social responsibility (e.g. no child labor, health and safety of workers, freedom of assembly, community relations)

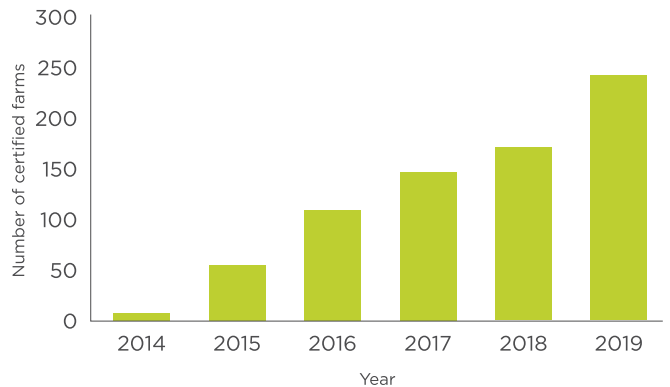
HOW DOES GSI SUPPORT FARMS TO ACHIEVE THE ASC CERTIFICATION?

Our goal is to help all members and farms achieve ASC certification as this will ensure the industry is operating to the highest levels of environmental performance. Within GSI, we support this by facilitating a problem-solving network for companies to share challenges they are experiencing with the ASC standard, help them understand the best ways of implementing criterion, and allow farms to share experiences about how they achieve the standard. By working together, we are able to speed up the uptake of ASC certifications, improve the environmental impact of the industry, and as a result provide more sustainable salmon for consumers.

THE GSI SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

Each year, GSI members transparently report on their environmental and social performance via their online Sustainability Report. The report includes data for all of GSI's member companies in their eight operating regions, across 14 key sustainability metrics defined by the ASC. The report is also independently audited.

Number of GSI farms ASC Certified



COMMITMENT TO CONTINUED IMPROVEMENTS

Through continued sharing of best-practices and knowledge we continue to work on our journey of achieving 100% ASC certification. Our work to achieve the ASC certification will both ensure responsible farming practices and provide consumers with greater choice of sustainable seafood options.

For more information please visit:
globalsalmoninitiative.org

