

Transfer losses

As in the wild, farmed salmon start life in fresh water and then transfer to sea water.

Transferring between fresh and sea water can be a stressful time for salmon. Farmers use technology to assess when their populations of fish have made the biological transformations necessary to allow them to live in the sea. They also use specialist lorries, boats and, in some cases, helicopters to transfer fish as swiftly and safely as possible, checking the fish and water throughout using cameras and specialist monitoring equipment.

However, some fish in the population may not be quite ready for the transfer to sea water and do not survive.