Economics of closed containment systems for farming salmon

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DFO has released a new report which assesses the economics of closed containment systems for farming salmon. The report assesses the economics of nine different technologies. It identifies the current standard of net pen ocean systems and recirculating on-land aquaculture systems as the only two technologies likely to show positive returns. The capital costs for net pen operations would sit around \$2,000 per tonne of product, while land-based closed containment systems would raise that price to over \$9,000/t, with no increase in return. The analysis shows that any revenues from closed-containment facilities would be much more susceptible to exchange rates, for example, with change significantly impacting income. The BC Salmon Farmers Association has acknowleded that full life-cycle closed-containment warrants further investigation, but argues that a lot more information is needed before it can be considered a viable alternative. Report available here

TAGS:sustainable, aquaculture, economics, BC salmon, closed containment systems, BC Salmon Farmers, DFO report, fisheries

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