

Strategic Visioning Panel

US Finfish Aquaculture
Major Challenges

Major Challenges for US Finfish Aquaculture

- Social License

Ongoing acceptance of a company's (industry's) standard business practices and operating procedures by its employees, stakeholders and the general public

Courtesy of Investopedia

- Regulatory

- Financing

Social License

- Aquaculture is held to a different standard than other proteins
- Not a US-only issue
 - Impacts all major salmon production regions
 - Does impact ability of US market to become established and grow
- Vocal minority having disproportionate impact
- Industry needs to address the matter head-on
- Pendulum appears to be swinging in a positive direction

Regulatory

- Federal level - lack of a clearly defined lead agency has led to permitting purgatory
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
 - Major hurdle for aquaculture operations – as it is for other businesses
- Opponents adept at using regulatory process to delay or stop projects
- MARA Act introduced in Senate
- Appears to be growing awareness of need to evolve NEPA to enable economic growth