

# **'Namgis Closed Containment Atlantic Salmon Farm**



*Aquaculture Innovation Workshop  
November 2012*

*Garry Ullstrom  
Senior Financial Officer - 'Namgis First Nation*

*Cathal Dinneen  
Operations Manager – K'udas Limited Partnership*

*Eric Hobson  
President – The SOS Marine Conservation Foundation*







# People of the Salmon









# *Who's Involved?*



**TIDES**canada  
uncommon solutions for the common good

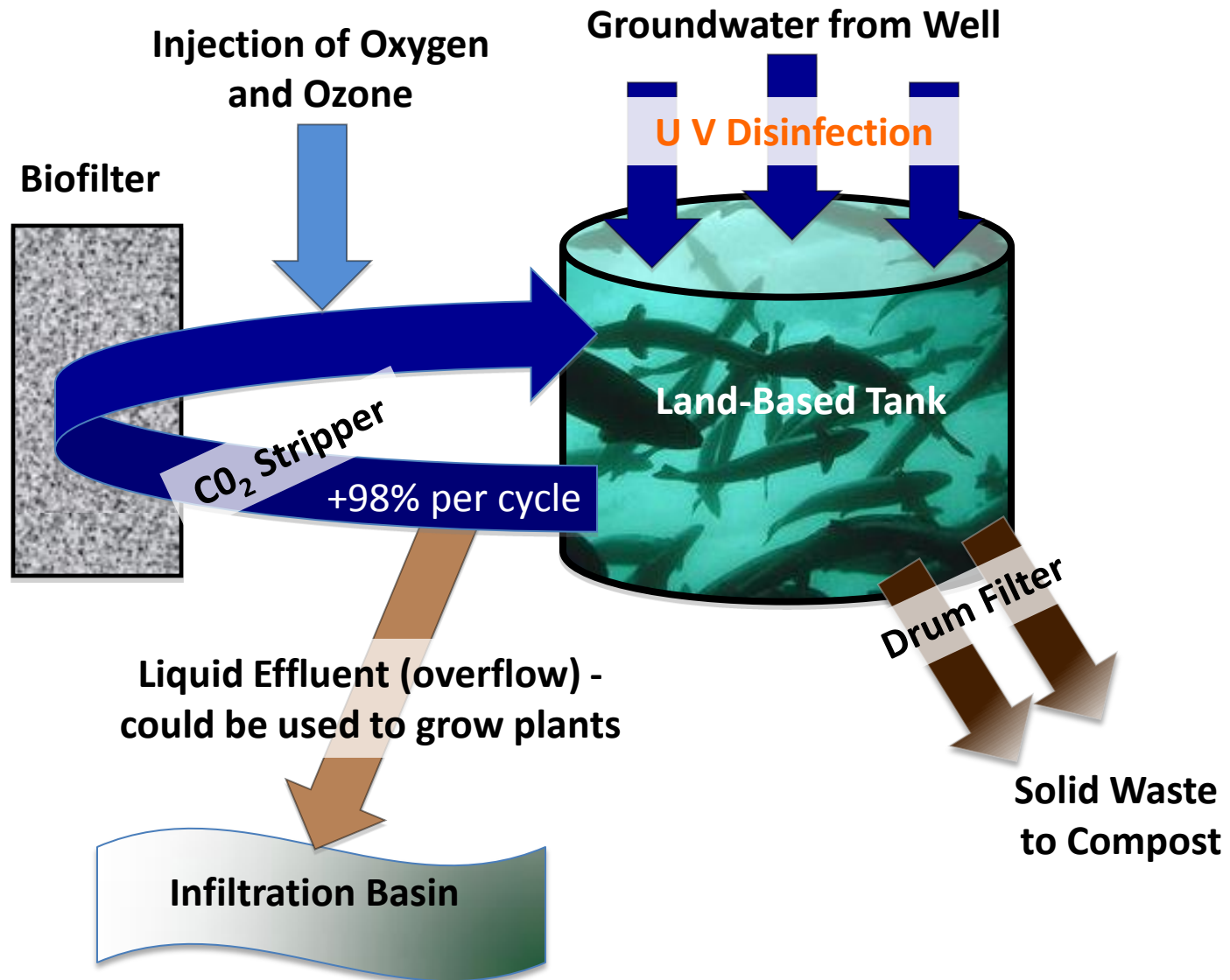


# *Project Location*





# *RAS Technology*



# *Project Objectives*

Confirm the biological and technical parameters for raising Atlantic salmon.

- Optimal temperature; fish density; salinity; water quality factors; feed conversion rates; successful grilse reduction strategies, etc.



# *Project Objectives*

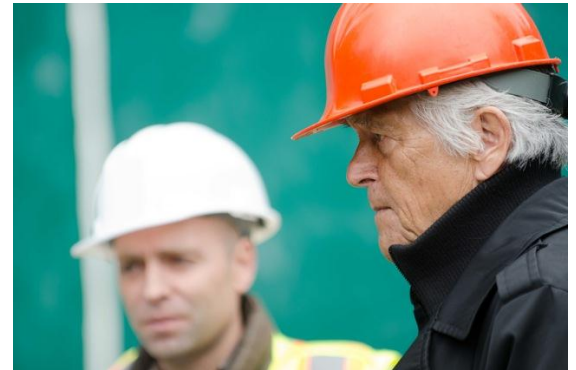
Determine the optimal design and production parameters for a commercial sized facility.

- Optimal tank sizes and design; heating system size and design; use of denitrification to reduce effluent and heating costs; facility size re labour requirements;
- Confirmation of no environmental impacts and determination of how to best capitalize from the waste stream (aquaponics and/or fertilizers).

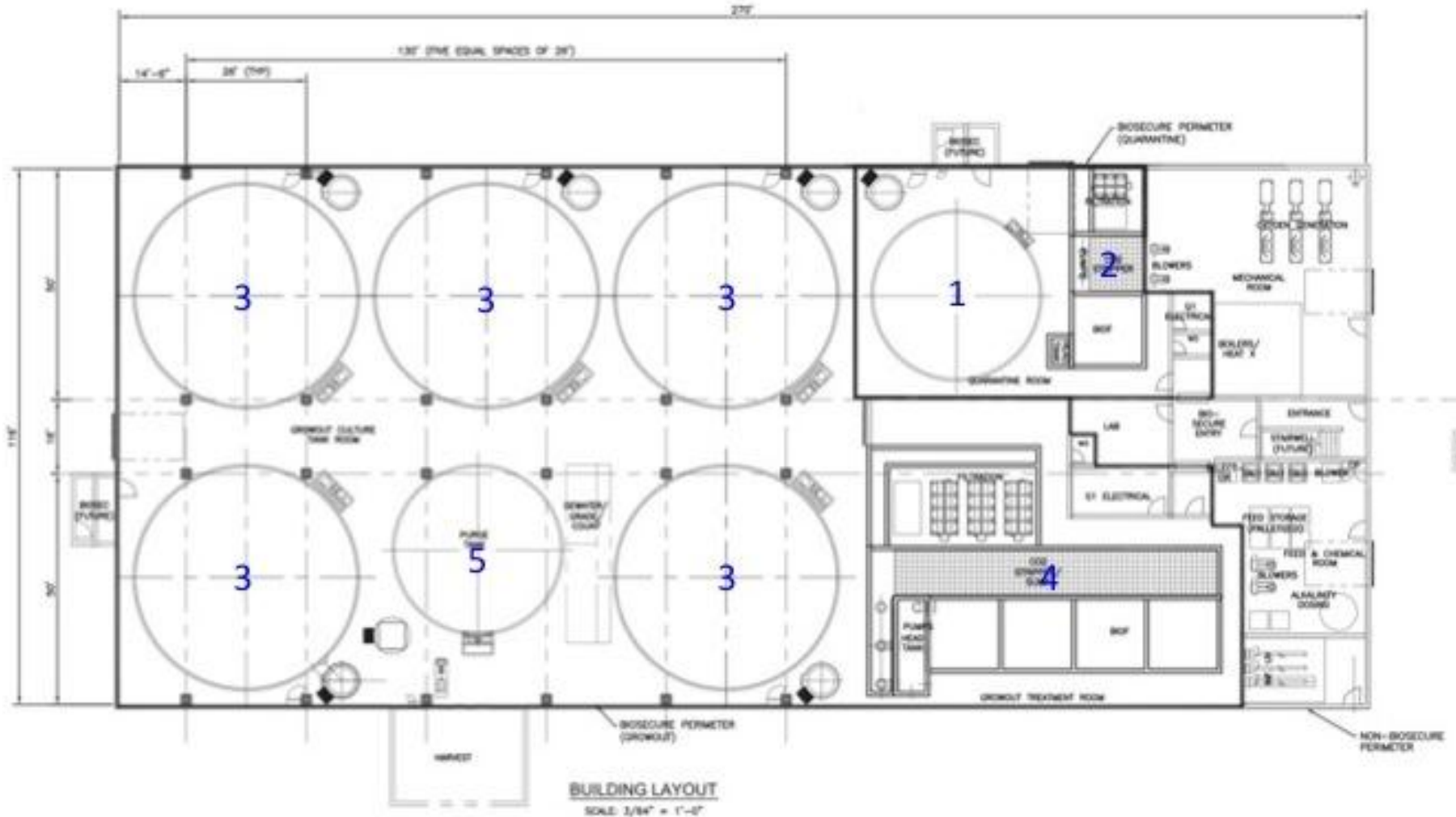


# *Project Objectives*

- Determine the minimum site characteristics.
- Determine economic factors
  - Operating costs
  - Revenues
- Make a profit from Module One.
- **Catalyze the adoption and improvement of this technology for growing Atlantic salmon.**

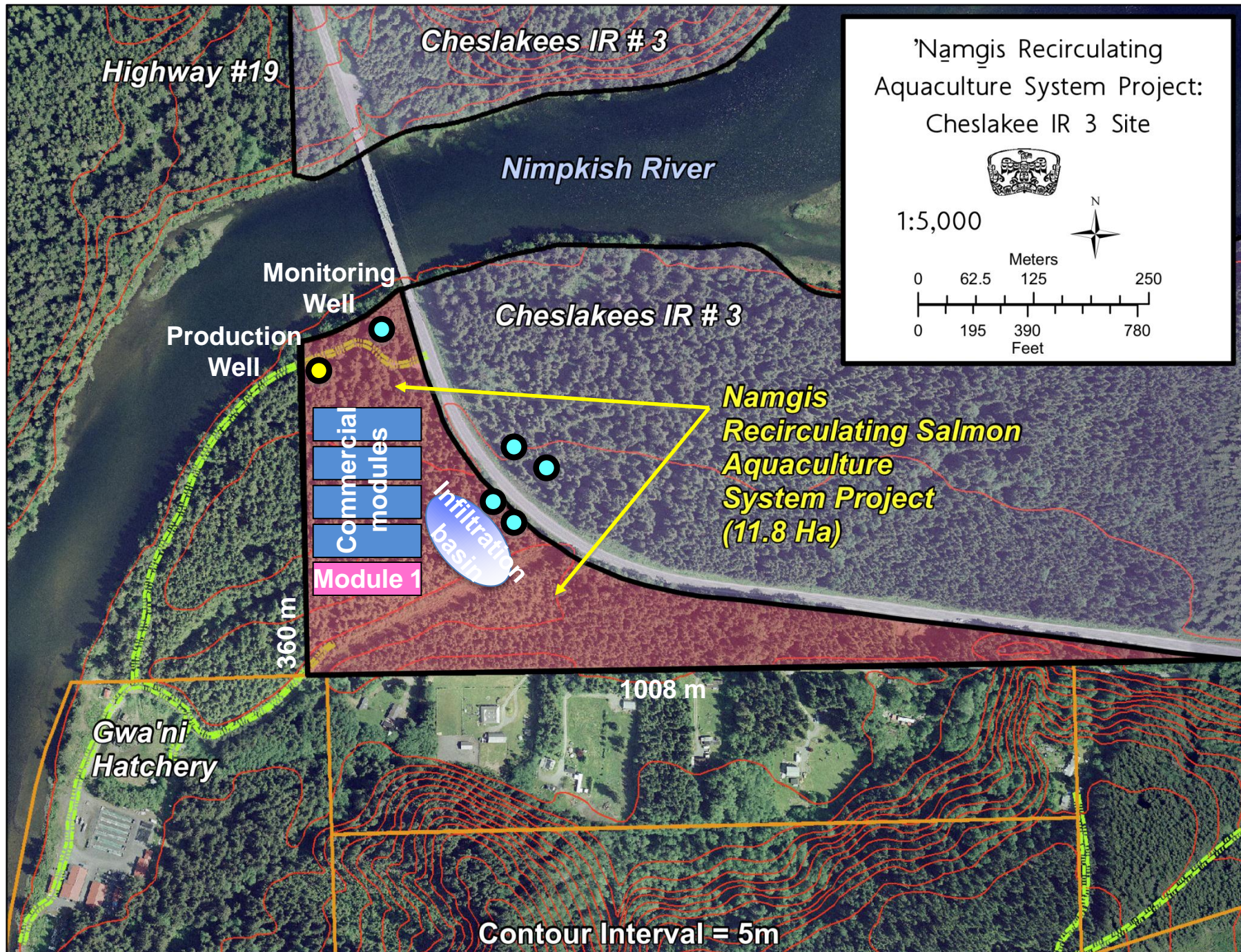


## Facility Layout



2,870 m<sup>2</sup> (35m x 82m; 116' x 270')







# *Project Timeline*

- Construction complete December 2012
- Smolts into facility January 2013
- First harvest January 2014







Project site – September 18, 2012

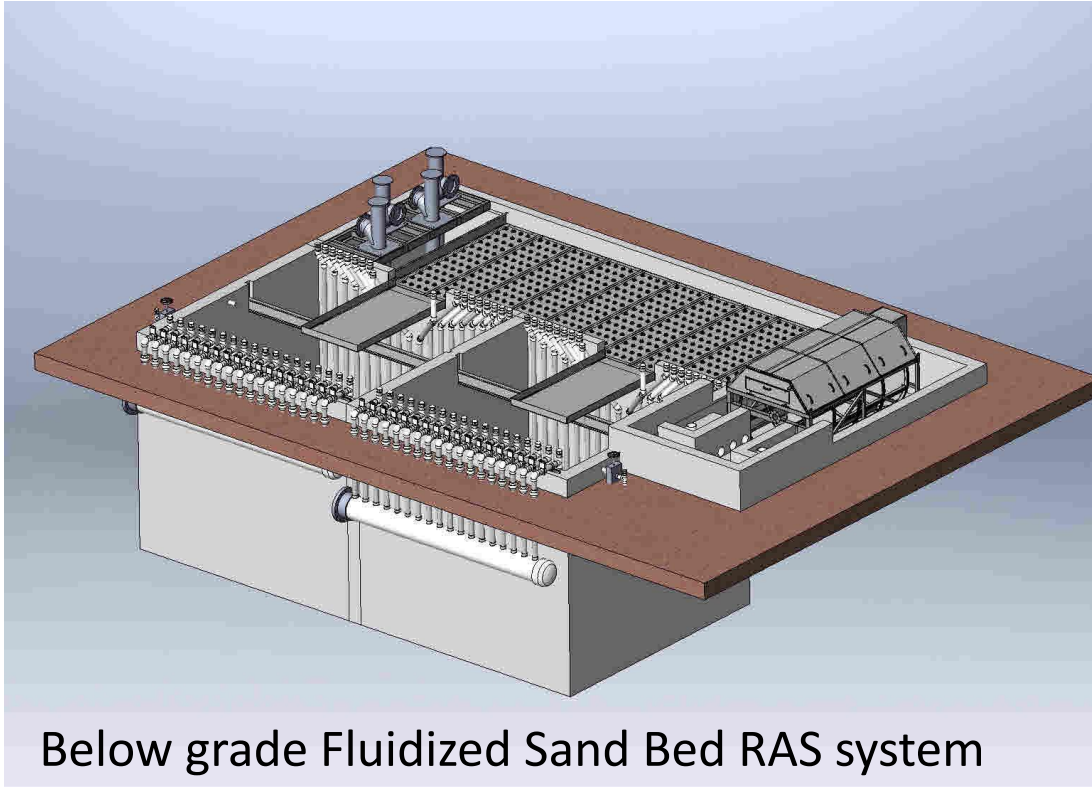




Project site – November 1, 2012



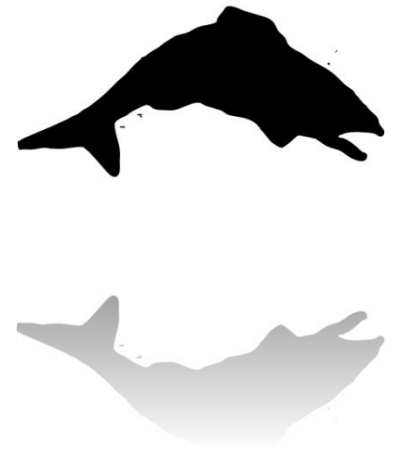
# *Process Innovation*



Above grade FSB RAS system

# *Future Innovation*

- Introduce:
  - Denitrification
  - Chilling
  - Other operating innovations
- Turning waste into profits.
- Methods to reduce grilsing.
- Other design innovations to reduce capital costs.





# ***Funding for Construction & Operations***

Tides Canada	3,166,533
Sustainable Development Technology Canada	2,650,000
Department of Fisheries and Oceans – Aquaculture Innovation & Market Access Program	800,000
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada	497,575
Coast Sustainability Trust	113,111
Ritchie Foundation	130,000
BC Hydro Power Smart	143,000
<b>Total Grant Funding secured</b>	<b>7,500,219</b>
‘N̓amgis First Nation Investment (in addition to contribution of land)	1,000,000
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>\$ 8,500,219</b>

## *Capital Costs of Pilot*

RAS Equipment	\$ 5,006,288	\$12.84/kg HOG
Site Develop. & Bldgs.	2,025,610	\$ 5.19/kg
Other Equipment	<u>525,599</u>	<u>\$ 1.35/kg</u>
<b>Total Capital Costs</b>	<b><u>\$ 7,557,497</u></b>	<b><u>\$19.38/kg HOG</u></b>
		<b><u>\$ 8.81/lb</u></b>

470 Metric Tonnes of production per year live weight. 390 tonnes HOG per year.



# ***Costs to First Harvest***

## **Inventory Buildup:**

Feed & Smolts	\$ 583,791
Labour	280,450
Other Prod'n Costs	294,607
Processing & Marketing	83,546
Pre-production salaries, etc.	287,870
Administration & Overhead	<u>449,115</u>
<b>Total Op. Costs to 1<sup>st</sup> Harvest</b>	<b>1,979,379</b>
 <b>Total Capital Costs</b>	 <b><u>7,557,497</u></b>
 <b>Total Costs to 1<sup>st</sup> Harvest</b>	 <b><u>\$9,536,876</u></b>

# Capital Costs – Pilot vs. Commercial

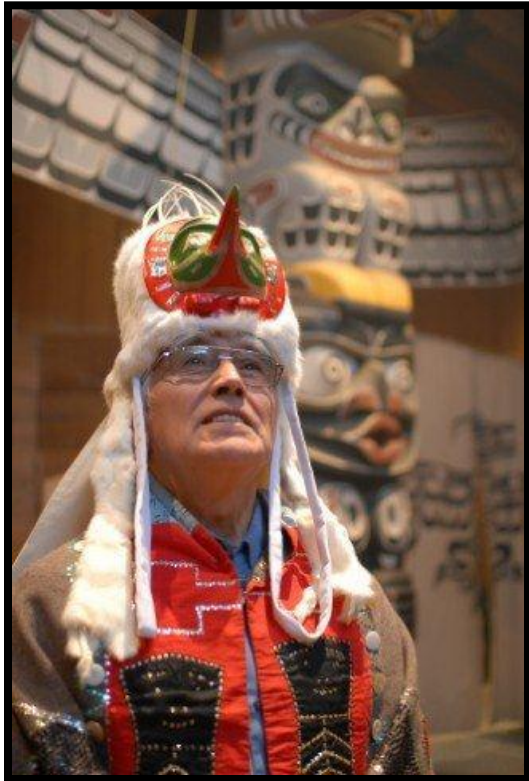
	Cost Per Module (\$'000)	
	First Module	Commercial Scale
Engineering	501	130
RAS Equipment	2,477	2,200
RAS Installation	2,029	1,500
Civil Works	1,045	570
Main Building	980	880
Other Equip.	525	220
<b>Cost Per Module</b>	<b>7,557</b>	<b>5,500</b>
Permanent Inventory	1,979	7,200
Hatchery		1,500
<b>Total Capital Cost</b>	<b>9,536</b>	<b>30,700</b>



# ***Operating Expenses – Pilot vs. Commercial***

Key Variables	First Module	Commercial-Scale & Optimized	
	\$/kg HOG		% Improve
Feed	2.10	1.77	16%
Labour	0.75	0.45	40%
Power	0.31	0.28	10%
Smolts	0.85	0.64	25%
Maintenance	0.09	0.09	0%
Fish Health Treatments	0.30	0.27	10%
Other Operating	0.49	0.37	25%
Process, Pkg, Freight	0.78	0.70	10%
Marketing, Sales Adm.	0.51	0.46	10%
Corporate Overhead	0.050	0.045	10%
Total Production Costs	6.22	5.08	18%

# *Marketing and Sales*



- Demand for seafood that meets ENGO sustainability ranking criteria is currently greater than the supply
- Strategic partnership with Albion Fisheries to process and market the product is currently being negotiated
- Branding program is under development
- Ensuring production method, including feed formulation and supply, meets Monterey Bay Aquarium's "SeaChoice" sustainability ranking criteria



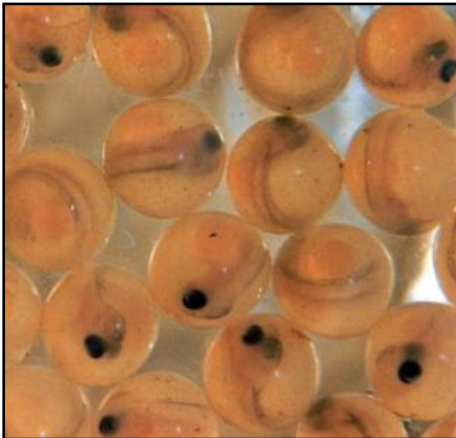
# *Future Potential*

The experience gained from Module 1 = significant economies of scale in capital and operating costs as additional modules are added.

**Build, operate, and optimize the facility through 4 to 6 grow-out cycles.**

**Add Value-Added Businesses**

Hatchery; aquaponics; organic fertilizer; custom processing; transportation services; salmon processing & marketing company



**Monetize the Intellectual Property (IP)**



**Expand Facility to Commercial Scale 2,000 to 3,000 MT**

# *Key Issues to Date*

- Regulatory and permitting
- Engineering (design)
  - Heating
  - Structural
  - Energy efficiency
- Capital Costs
- Lender and investor lack of knowledge
- Bioplan
  - Density
  - Grilse rate
  - Grading and handling
- Marketing and sales
  - Processing
  - Pricing / quality premium
  - Market development



# Contact Information

## Garry Ullstrom

Senior Financial Officer, 'Namgis First Nation

[garryu@namgis.bc.ca](mailto:garryu@namgis.bc.ca) ; 250-974-5556

[www.namgis.bc.ca](http://www.namgis.bc.ca) - Project updates



## Cathal Dinneen

Operations Manager

[CathalD@namgis.bc.ca](mailto:CathalD@namgis.bc.ca); 250-974-8208

## Eric Hobson

President, SOS Marine Conservation Foundation

[eric@saveoursalmon.ca](mailto:eric@saveoursalmon.ca); 250-230-7136

[www.saveoursalmon.ca](http://www.saveoursalmon.ca)



Slides With More Detailed Information

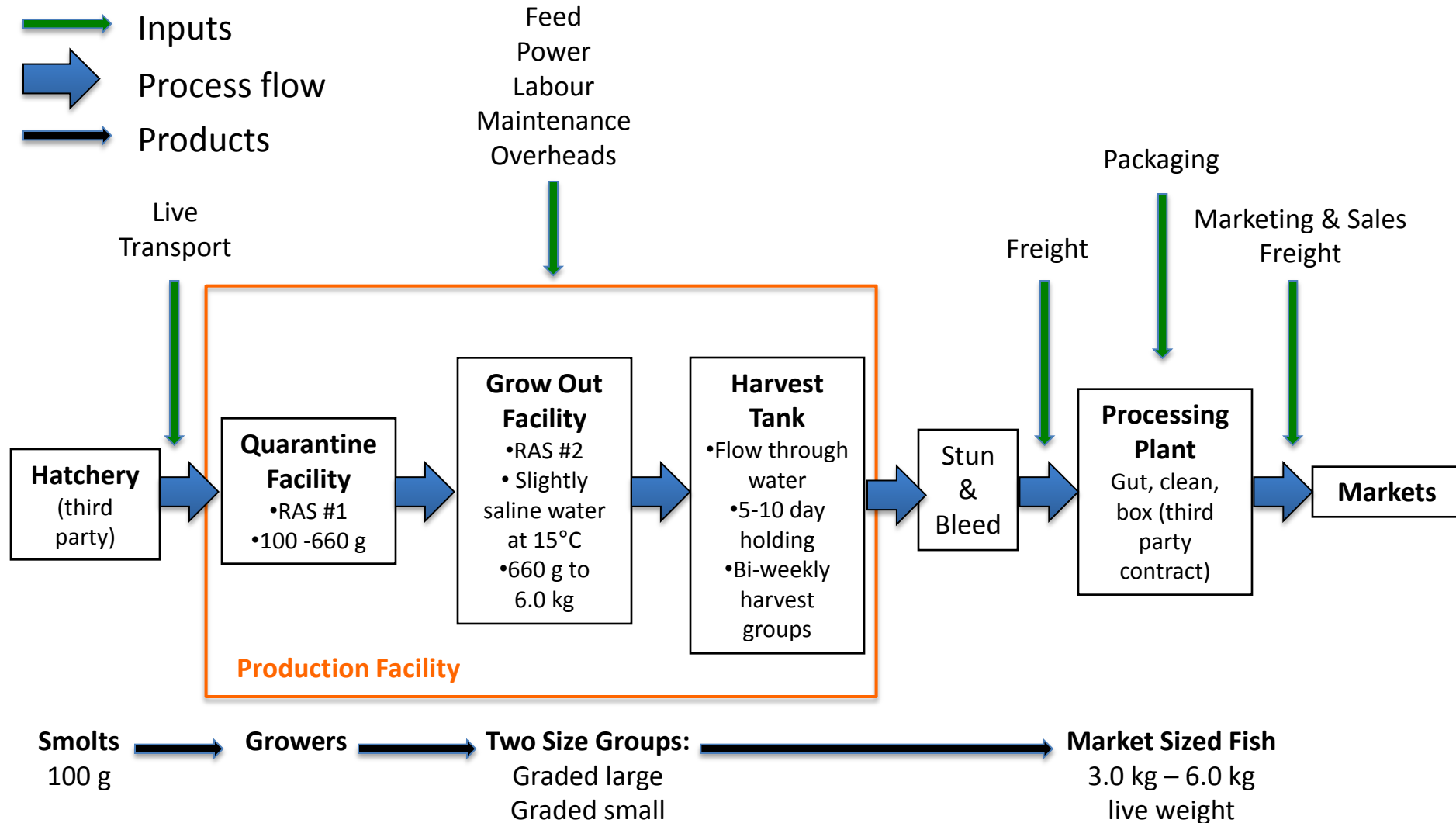


# *Who's Involved?*

- **'Namgis First Nation** - 100% owner (K'udas GP Inc.).
- **The SOS Marine Conservation Foundation** (Save Our Salmon) – Project Partner providing funding and business expertise.
- **Tides Canada** - with the support of the **Freshwater Institute**, provides funding, technical and project management support.
- **PR Aqua** – Aquaculture system supplier.

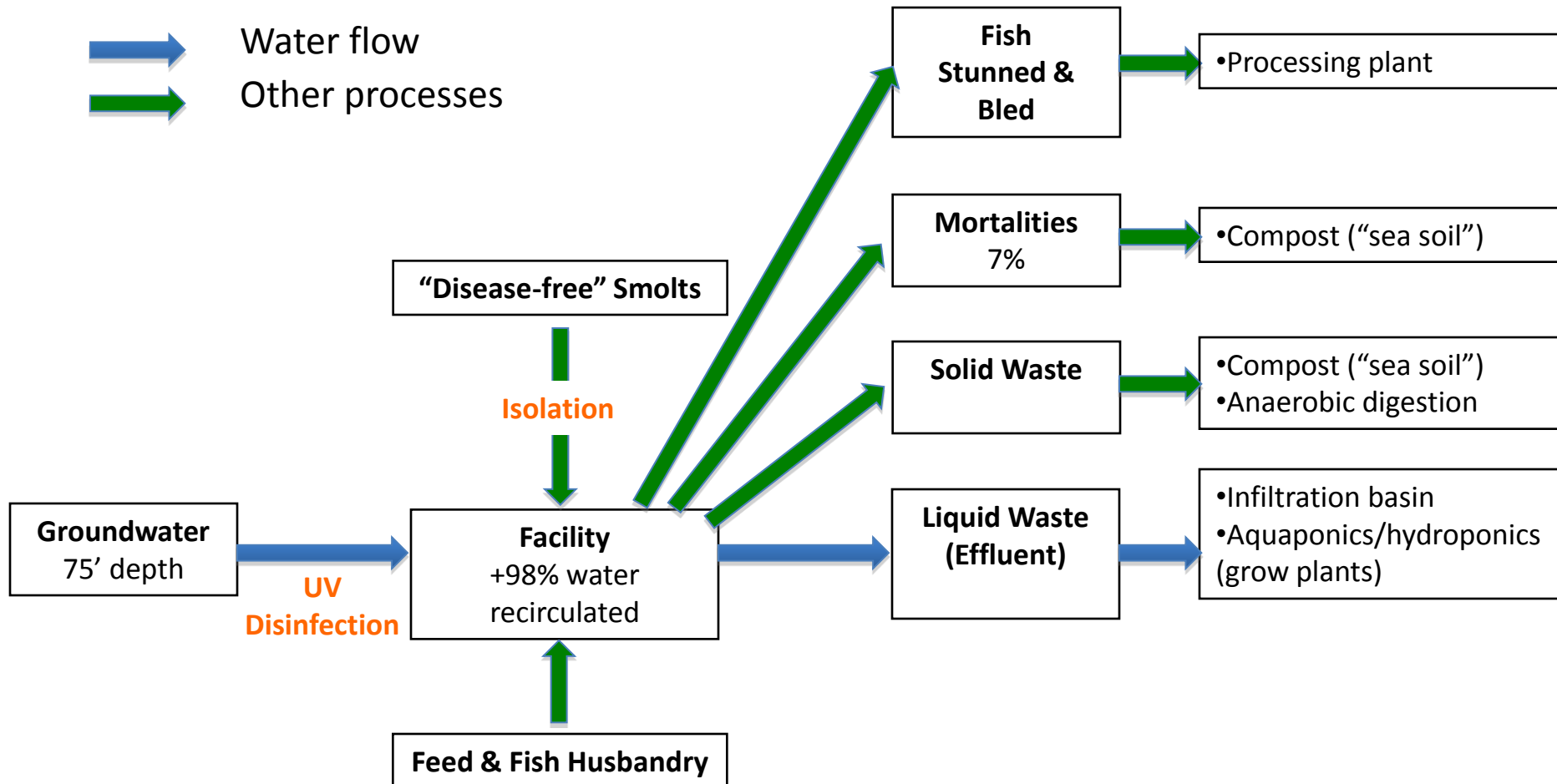


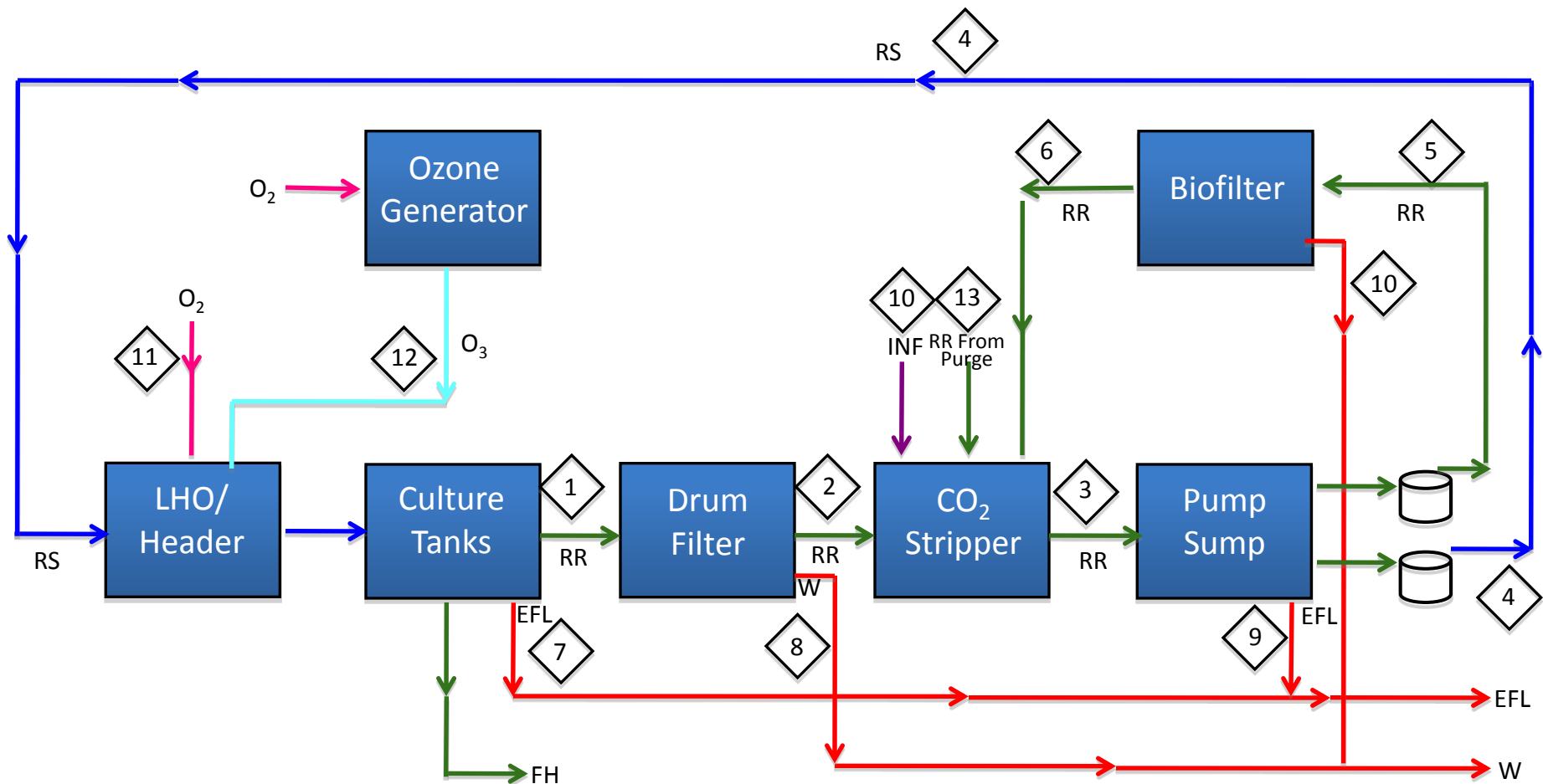
# Process Flow





# Input and Outputs

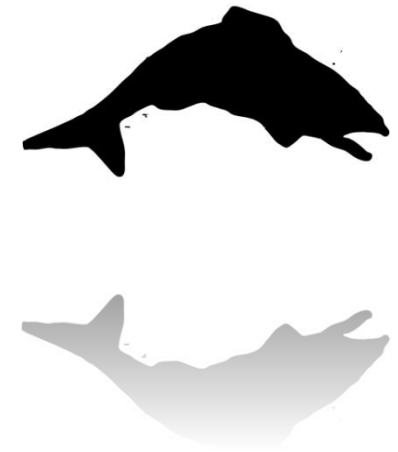






# *Project Overview*

- Module 1 of a 5 module farm;
- Covered, biosecure facility
- +98% recirculation rate
- Groundwater disinfected on entry
- Slightly saline water at 15° C
- 3 cohorts of Atlantic salmon smolts/year
- Target density = 90 kg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Smolts from Canadian broodstock, “disease free”, will undergo rigorous third-party additional disease testing and be quarantined for 4 months
- Module 1 = 470 tonnes/year
- Growout in 12 -15 months; no use of antibiotics or pesticides
- Harvest sizes 3 to 6 kg; continuous supply
- Capital cost \$7 million
- Independent environmental monitoring through PSF funded by Tides Canada



# *Key Site Characteristics*

- Ample supply of fresh and brackish groundwater
- Three phase power nearby
- Soil characteristics good for infiltration basin
- Adjacent to Island Highway
- Within 5 km of Port McNeill
- Close to processing plant and composting facility
- Room for expansion

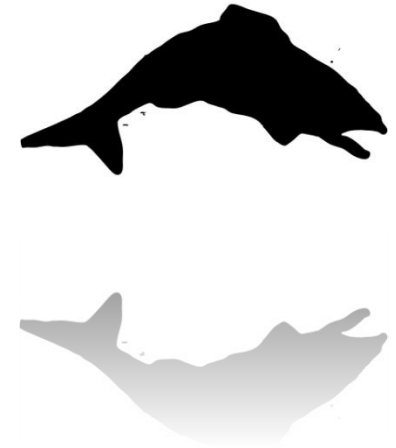
# ***Technologies & Equipment Summary***

- Facility housed within 1 building divided into 2 sections: quarantine & growout
- **Water** supplied from ground + UV disinfection
- **Tanks:** 5 @ 500m<sup>3</sup>; 2 @250m<sup>3</sup>; fiberglass; dual drain Cornell style
- **Biofilter:** PRAqua fluidized sand biofilter, below grade installation
- **Gas exchange:** Tank LHO's & CO<sub>2</sub> stripping tower
- **Feeding:** Central feeding system (pneumatic)
- **Inventory control:** Electronic counting at transfer (e.g. Aquascan), bio-scanner frame weight monitoring
- **Fish transfer:** Central pump & grading station
- **Particulate filtration:** Microscreen drum filter (80micron)
- **Heating system:** Heat pump (1 to start) using groundwater as heat source and culture tank based heating coils as destination; Energy Recovery Ventilator (ERV) used to recover heat from vented air
- **Head:** 16 feet
- **Fish harvest:** Purge tank



# *Bio-Programming Facts*

- Smolt entry at 100 g
- Smolts quarantined for 4 months
- 3 crops/year
- Thermal Growth Coefficient of 2.5
- Slightly saline water at 15° C
- 6 kg target size
- Harvest every two weeks
- Incorporate overstocking and early harvest
- Up to 2 week depuration period
- Initial design density of 50 kg/m<sup>3</sup> increasing to 90 kg/m<sup>3</sup>
- 470 MT production



# ***RAS Performance Metrics (Projected)***

Water flow:

- Makeup water flushing:
  - Per unit system volume – 150 gpm; 25% of system volume/day
  - Per recirculating flow basis – 99.5% recirculation rate
- Culture tank exchange rate at different stages:
  - Growout – 30 min
  - Quarantine – 45 min
  - Purge – 45 min

# *RAS Performance Metrics (Projected)*

In tank water quality targets\*:

- Temperature - 15°C average
- Salinity – 6 to 8 ppt (influent water supply)
- Alkalinity – 75 mg/l min (controlled with NaOH)
- CO<sub>2</sub> - 12 mg/l max
- Oxygen – 100%

\*at 90 kg/m<sup>3</sup>





# *Biological Metrics (Projected)*

- Smolt size – 100 g (supplied by third party)
- Maximum Density - 50 (1<sup>st</sup> cohort), 75 (2<sup>nd</sup> cohort), 90 (3<sup>rd</sup> cohort) kg/m<sup>3</sup>
- FCRb - 1.05
- TGC – 2.5
- Mortality- 7.6% (including 3% cull)
- Harvest size – 3 to 6 kg
- No antibiotics nor pesticides will be used

# *Process Innovation*

## **Two process loop strategy**

- Matches flow rates to the requirements of the individual processes
- Reduced flow and power use when demand allows without affecting flow dependent processes

## **Two passes through CO<sub>2</sub> stripper**

- Allows for a significant reduction in system dissolved CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations and reduced flow rates

# ***Process Innovation***

## **Equipment is low profile**

- Lower profile building with reduced air volume  
= reduced energy for air handling and heating
- Easy access to equipment without stairs or elevated platforms  
= reduced labour

## **Use of low head oxygenation technologies**

- Allows for the use of low cost, low pressure generated O<sub>2</sub>  
without the risk of elevating total dissolved gases

## **Oxygen control on a tank-by-tank basis**

- Improved efficiency of oxygen use = lower operations cost