

Woods Institute Environmental Venture Project

Only a fledgling industry in the 1980's, Chilean salmon farming grew 17-fold between 1990 and 2002, and began rivaling Norway as the world's largest salmon producer in 2006 when it exported about 450,000 tons of farmed product worth \$2.2 billion. While this explosive growth along a coastline uniquely suited to aquaculture has resulted in farmed salmon becoming Chile's third largest export after copper and timber, it has also caused sweeping social and environmental changes throughout the southern half of the country where the farming is concentrated.

This Environmental Venture Project will document, map, and analyze these social, environmental, and institutional/legal changes using methodologies grounded in distinct disciplines in both the humanities and social sciences. Partnering with Stanford's Spatial History Project at the Bill Lane Center for the Study of the American West, we will use a combination of archival and survey data to analyze the growth of the industry over time from a number of different lenses. Initially we will plot the allowed aquaculture leases as designated by Chile's Subsecretaría de Marina, Ministerio de Defensa Nacional. Then, GIS data will be used to map the growth of the industry over the last 35 years by placing the farms within (or without) their legal tenures. Data from The Darwin Project tracing the impact of escaped salmon will be compiled to spatially correlate these with the farms. A comprehensive set of household surveys will be conducted to gather a suite of social data on salmon-farm workers and fishermen, and as data accumulates another set of social maps will super-impose over this physical data to trace changes in labor relations and gender norms. Finally, the research on the legal and institutional history of marine resource use in Chile will provide a greater context within which to understand these changes. The collaborative product will be a set of linked maps detailing this social, cultural, and legal history through the explosive growth of the industry.