Salmon with a Side of Plastic? Microplastics are Contaminating Vancouver’s Aquaculture

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The Problem
Microplastic contaminated fishmeal is fed to salmon, which can harm salmon consumers.

- Microplastics are plastics less than 5mm in length

- Surface fish eat microplastics in the ocean
- Fish meal is produced from surface fish

- Aquaculture salmon are fed microplastic-contaminated fish meal.
- Chemicals in microplastics leach into salmon fat tissue
- Humans ingest microplastics and related chemicals.

The Solution: Converting Food Waste to Salmon Feed with Insects

- By-products of insect production such as fertilizer sold to support process
- Insect meal and insect oil
- Insect meal fed to locally farmed salmon

Implementation & Assessment

- Partner with the City of Vancouver to implement trash pick up
- Contact Enterra Feed about using food waste to raise fly larvae
- Partner with Mowi Salmon Farm to test the quality of fish fed with insect meal

Key References