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**From:** Mark Lewis  
**Subject:** **Re: Sea Lice Research with Finest At Sea Ocean Products, SeaWeb and the National Geographic Society**  
**Date:** November 16, 2007 11:01:09 AM PST  
**To:** Vivian Krause

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Vivian Krause, the research is published in the top international journals where it has been evaluated via rigorous peer review by independent scientists. If you have any concerns about the research or its accuracy, please feel free to contact the journal involved.

Sources are acknowledged appropriately and are publicly available (see also <http://www.math.ualberta.ca/~mlewis/research1/index.htm> and follow the link for "Grant and fellowship funding for the sea lice and salmon work"). Approximately 3/4 of the funding is from government and university sources and the vast majority of the remainder is through a MITACS National Centre for Excellence with academic and nonacademic partners, who provides funding to scientists via a peer review process. Seaweb was not involved in the research or its funding.

I trust that this information will help address any concerns you may have. At this point I do not intend to pursue further email correspondence.

Sincerely,

Mark Lewis

Vivian Krause wrote:

> Dr. Lewis,

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> I am writing to let you know that I have not yet received a reply from you regarding the question and concerns expressed in my e-mail of

> 9 November (below).

>

> I would appreciate a response this week.

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> Sincerely,

> Vivian Krause

> 604.219.5905

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> On Friday, November 09, 2007, at 09:26AM, "Vivian Krause" <[vivian.krause@mac.com](mailto:vivian.krause@mac.com)> wrote:

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>> Dr. Lewis,

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>> Thank you for replying to my e-mail.

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>> Your document of 11 October 2006 to the University of Alberta states that Finest At Sea Ocean Products, The National Geographic Society and SeaWeb are among the "research partners" of the Center for Mathematical Biology. Your e-mail below seems to me to confirm that these organizations are in fact partners in your sea lice research.

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>> In the Acknowledgements of your paper published on 17 October 2006, you list The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC), The David Suzuki Foundation, Raincoast Conservation, the Canadian Sablefish Association and the B.C. Wilderness Tourism Association as your sources of funding. I did not see Finest At Sea Ocean Products, The National Geographic Society or SeaWeb listed in the Acknowledgements of your paper published in PNAS on 17 October 2006 nor in your sea lice paper published in March 2005.

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>> I would like to know what was the origin of the funds that were granted for your sea lice research from the National Geographic Society. In particular, I would like to know whether your sea lice research was funded with part of the \$5 million that the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund granted to the National Geographic Society. At the same time that it granted those funds, the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund also funded the I.A.T.P. for an "ending industrial aquaculture campaign." The I.A.T.P. implemented a "Go Wild" campaign in which the David Suzuki Foundation appears to have participated. The stated purpose of the "Go Wild" campaign was "to break the cheap farmed fish habit" by working with wholesalers and retailers so that wild fish would be more widely distributed.

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>> Your document of 11 October 2006 to the University of Alberta states that SeaWeb generated 148 media stories following the publication of your 2005 sea lice research paper. Most of this media coverage (about 120 stories) ran in the U.S. and Europe - not in Canada. In my opinion, your research findings were inaccurately presented in that media coverage and also in your letter of 18 September 2007 to the Prime Minister of Canada and the Premier of British Columbia. As I understand, your 2006 paper presented the outcome of a computer-generated exercise in mathematical modelling that estimated wild juvenile salmon mortality in the range of 9 to 95%. Your press release stated that wild salmon mortality was estimated at "up to 95%." In my opinion, the wording used gave the misleading impression that you actually measured juvenile pink salmon mortality in the wild when in fact, as far as I can tell, you didn't. According to the Hansard transcripts (Issue 32), Mr. Krkosek explicitly told Mr. Yap (MLA from Richmond), that your research was "all correlative" yet the publicity of your research gave the impression that you had proven that sea lice from salmon farms cause high mortality of wild salmon. It does not appear to me that your research warrants this conclusion.

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>> At the time that SeaWeb was one of your research partners, SeaWeb was funded for "integration of aquaculture science messages into antifarming campaign," "co-ordination of media for antifarming ENGOs," and "earned media" as part of the "Wild Salmon Ecosystems Initiative of the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation. The Moore Foundation reported to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service that the Wild Salmon Ecosystems Initiative granted \$560,000 to SeaWeb "to provide a high quality tool-kit and co-ordination infrastructure for use by ENGOs in their campaigns to shift consumer and retailer demand away from farmed salmon." At the same time that the Moore Foundation funded the "antifarming campaign" it also funded the NWIBR for "immobilization" of the expansion of net pen salmon aquaculture in B.C..

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>> I would like to know whether the funds for sea lice research granted from the David Suzuki Foundation and Raincoast Conservation to the Center for Mathematical Biology also originated from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation.

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>> Based on my observations as I have outlined above and elsewhere, it looks to me as if your sea lice research was part of the "antifarming campaign" of the "Wild Salmon Ecosystems Initiative" and that the publicity of your sea lice research was part of the "integration of aquaculture science messages" and "earned media" in order to shift consumer and retailer demand away from farmed salmon. Is this so?

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>> I would like to know and I would like the MLAs who were members of the Special Committee on Sustainable Aquaculture to know too.

>> I am therefore copying them and others on this e-mail.

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>> As I understand, there are two meetings at the end of November when you or your colleagues are scheduled to present your sea lice research: the meeting at SFU and the U.S. National Organic Standards Board Meeting. At these meetings, I hope that you will ensure that when the research of your Center is presented, the funding sources and partnerships will be fully and appropriately disclosed.

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>> Sincerely,

>> Vivian Krause

>> 604.219.5905

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>> On Wednesday, November 07, 2007, at 07:59AM, "Mark Lewis" <[mlewis@math.ualberta.ca](mailto:mlewis@math.ualberta.ca)> wrote:

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>>> Dear Vivian Krause, thank you for your inquiry.

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>>> Finest at Sea Products is a non-academic participant in the MITACS project Network for Invasions and Dispersal. Part of this project funds a portion of our research on sea lice and salmon. Funding for this project is peer reviewed. Funding associated with Finest at Sea Products accounts for approximately 2% of the sea lice and salmon research funding.

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>>> Part of the sea lice and salmon research is also funded by a competitive grant coming from the National Geographic Society.

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>>> SeaWeb has covered some of the research results on sea lice and salmon and has communicated it broadly to the public.

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>>> Mark Lewis

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>>> Vivian Krause wrote:

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>>>> Dr. Lewis,

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>>>> As you are aware from my recent open letter to David Suzuki, I am concerned that sea lice research findings were inaccurately

>>>> presented and important information was not included in your open letter to the Prime Minister of Canada and the Premier of

>>>> British Columbia. More broadly, I am very concerned about the salmon farming controversy and its consequences.

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>>>> Recently, I came across a document entitled, "Establishment of the University of Alberta Centre for Mathematical Biology in the Faculty of Science. It says, "GFC Academic Planning Committee, For the Meeting of October 11,2006, Item No. 4."

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>>>> This document includes APPENDIX C: Centre Research Partners. Listed as "Industry and NGO" partners are the Canadian Sablefish Association, The David Suzuki Foundation, Finest at Sea Ocean Products, Mixedwood Management Association, The National Geographic Society, SeaWeb and BC Wilderness Tourism Association.

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>>>> I am writing to inquire as to the nature of the involvement of Finest At Sea Ocean Products, The National Geographic Society and SeaWeb, in your work.  
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>>>> I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.  
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>>>> Sincerely,  
>>>> Vivian Krause  
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