

BC Salmon Farmers

The Discovery Islands decision and
potential impacts to Surrey's economy



May 6, 2021



BC SALMON
FARMERS

**Thank you to the Surrey Board of Trade
and the South Asian Business Association
of BC for hosting this important conversation.**



Today, I am joined by:

- Dean Dobrinsky, Mowi Canada West
- Ravi Jouhal, SureCold Refrigeration
- Josh Plamondon, Aquapak
- Doug Blair, RIAS Inc.
- Michelle Franze, BC Salmon Farmers Association

What brings us here today?



[Play Video](#)



A photograph of two people in a field of green plants. The person on the left is wearing a dark long-sleeved shirt, tan pants, and a dark cap, and is carrying a white bucket. The person on the right is wearing a dark hoodie with 'EGM' on it, a blue face mask, and blue gloves, and is holding a small red object. The background is a vast field of similar plants under a soft, overcast sky.

**We're Proud to be Part of B.C. and
Surrey's Vibrant Farming Sector.**



Top B.C. Agriculture, Seafood, Food and Beverage International Exports by Value (\$ Millions).

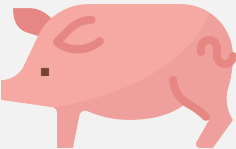


#1



\$273 Million

#3



\$101 Million

#9



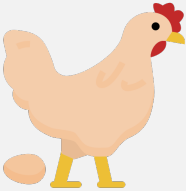
\$99 Million

#10



\$54 Million

#21



\$43 Million

#24

Source: Statistics Canada, International Export Highlights Year in Review (2019)

A woman with long brown hair, wearing a grey jacket, is smiling and holding a young child in a park. The child is wearing a white puffer jacket with a blue and red floral pattern. They are standing in front of a blue metal structure, possibly a playground. The background is a bright sunset over a body of water with trees and buildings in the distance. The overall mood is warm and happy.

BC's Salmon Farming Snapshot





B.C.'s salmon farming industry is the province's **#1 agricultural export** and contributes about \$1.6B to the provincial economy annually.



B.C.'s salmon farmers **work hand-in-hand with local Indigenous communities**. We are committed to UNDRIP principles.



BCSFA represents nearly **70 members active in farming** in British Columbia - from producers in rural coastal BC to feed companies based in Surrey.



Salmon farming sustains nearly **6,500 jobs** throughout British Columbia, but primarily in rural coastal communities.



Every salmon farmer in B.C. has been **certified** by at least one third-party organization, such as the Aquaculture Stewardship Council and Ocean Wise.

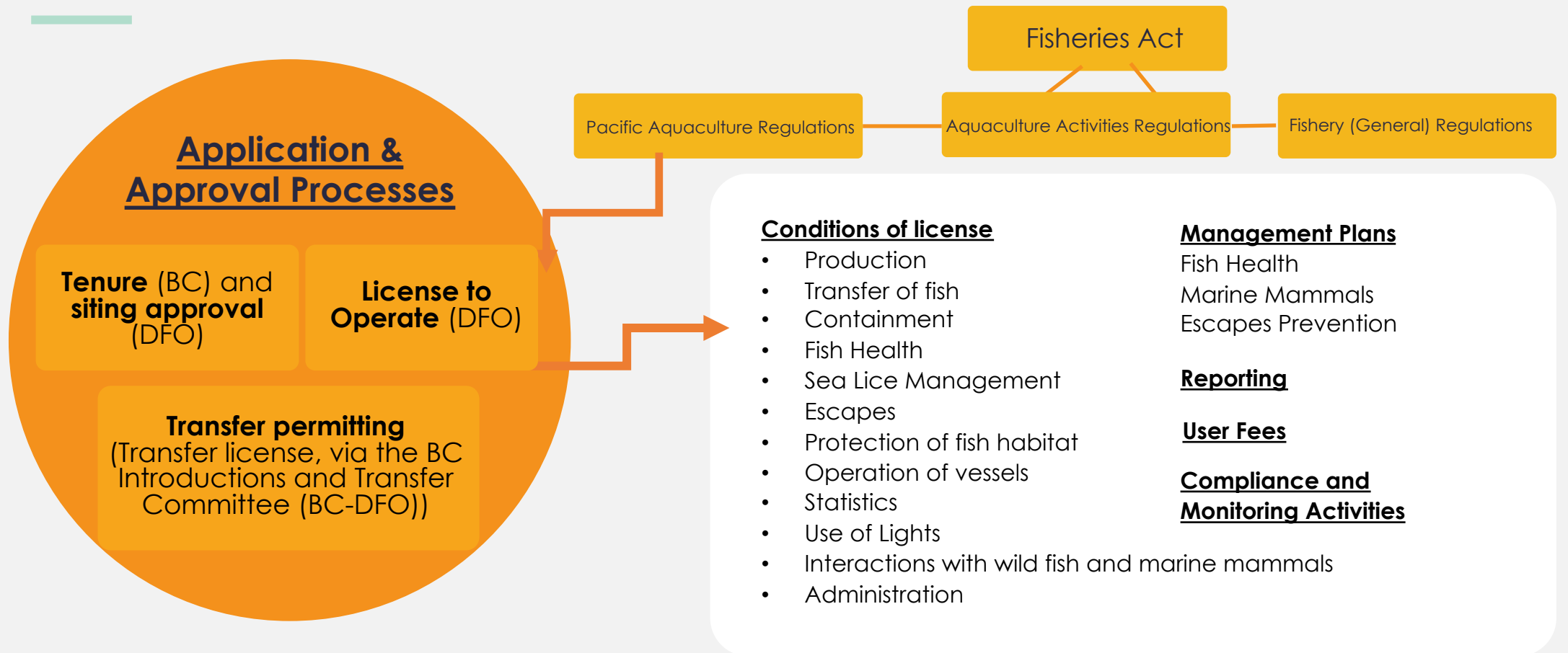


B.C.'s salmon farmers have **planned and invested \$500 million** in technology, innovation, and skills training from 2016-2022.

One of Canada's Most Regulated &
Climate Friendly Food Sectors



Regulatory Requirements for Finfish Farming in the BC Marine Environment



BC aquaculture facilities must also operate in compliance with key environmental and health & feed legislation such as the [Health of Animals Act \(CFIA\)](#), [Food and Drugs Act \(CFIA\)](#) and [Species at Risk Act \(DFO, ECC\)](#)

Additional measures for sea lice monitoring and response are put in place during the out-migration season (March – June) each year.

Let's meet Kelly!



A close-up photograph of a restaurant table. In the center is a white plate with a piece of seared fish, garnished with green herbs and a drizzle of sauce. To the left is a black woven basket containing bread and a small card. In the background, there are several glasses, including a champagne flute and a water glass, and other plates of food. A person's hand is visible on the right side of the frame, holding the edge of the plate. The lighting is warm and focused on the food.

From Land, to the Ocean,
to Surrey, Then to the World.



5 YEAR PLANNING



Egg harvesting and collection



From eggs to smolt in land-based fresh water



Ocean raised



Harvesting & fish processing full-sized salmon

Feed production

Surrey, B.C.

48 HOURS

Surrey, B.C.



Refrigeration, distribution and transport



A healthy and delicious meal on your plate

Discovery Islands Decision and Potential
Economic Consequences to Surrey.



Cohen Commission and Canadian Science Advisory Secretariat Findings:

October 2012:

Cohen Commission Recommendation 19 - On September 30, 2020, the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans should prohibit net-pen salmon farming in the Discovery Islands (fish health sub-zone 3-2) unless he or she is satisfied that **such farms pose at most a minimal risk of serious harm to the health of migrating Fraser River sockeye salmon.** The Minister's decision should summarize the information relied on and include detailed reasons. The decision should be published on the Department of Fisheries and Oceans' website.

September 2020:

The department has completed nine peer-reviewed, scientific risk assessments to determine the impact of interactions between wild Pacific salmon and pathogens from salmon farms and inform the response to Cohen Commission's Recommendation 19. **The results of these assessments concluded that the transfer of these pathogens pose a minimal risk to abundance and diversity of migrating Fraser River sockeye salmon in the area.**

December 2020 Discovery Islands Decision:

On December 17, 2020 Minister Jordan, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, made the following announcement regarding salmon farms in the Discovery Islands:

- **To phase out existing salmon farming facilities in the Discovery Islands,** with the upcoming 18-month period being the last time this area is licenced;
- To stipulate that **no new fish of any size may be introduced** into Discovery Islands facilities during this time; and
- To **mandate that all farms be free of fish by June 30th, 2022,** but that existing fish at the sites can complete their growth-cycle and be harvested.

Discovery Islands Damage Overview

Below data outlines the topline potential impacts to B.C. coastal communities over the next 18-months

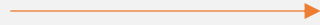
- Potentially **1,535** B.C. Jobs Gone
Average loss of more than \$79,000 in salary and benefits per family
- **\$386.6 Million** Economic Output
- **\$139.1 Million** GDP
- **\$21.5 Million** in Annual Tax Revenue
- **267 Suppliers** of Goods & Services Impacted
- **\$20.47 Million** Spending on Suppliers
- Up to **10.7 Million Salmon** Euthanized, a loss of **\$170 million** in value

24%
of B.C.'s Salmon
Aquaculture
sector could be
wiped out

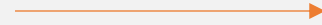
Potential impacts at Canadian dinner tables



Total salmon production annually - **88,874 tonnes** (2019)



Approximate salmon production distributed to Canada - **35,550 tonnes** (2019)



Approximate salmon meal equivalents that feed Canadians - **140 million** (2019)

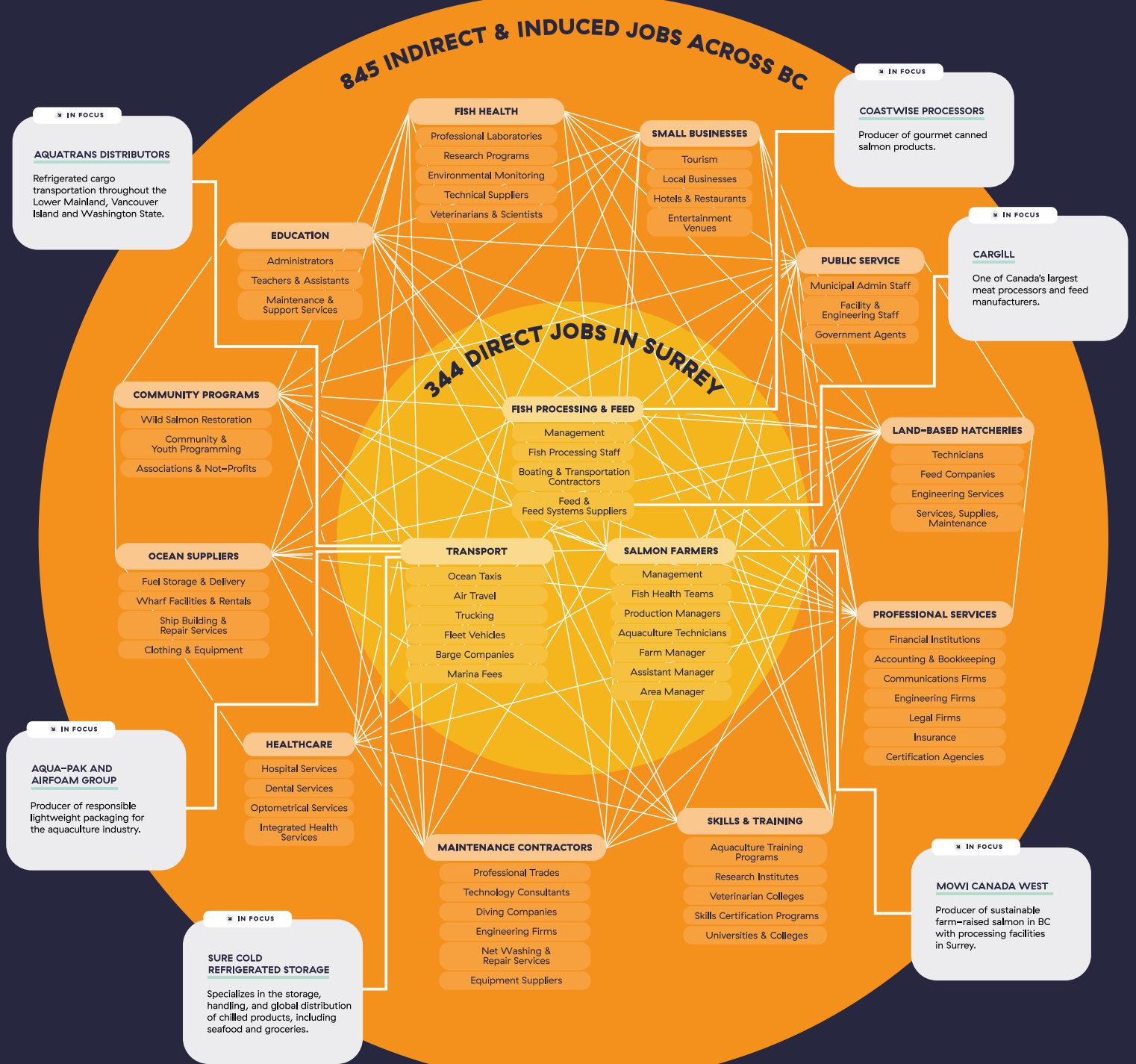


By reducing total salmon production by 24% in B.C., **Canada could lose 34 million meal equivalents** of healthy salmon protein annually

Economic Impact of Salmon Farming Suppliers in Surrey

- **\$220 Million** in Annual Revenue Generated by 6 companies that supply BC salmon farmers
- **\$46 Million** in GDP
- **344** Direct Surrey Jobs
- **845** Indirect & Induced B.C. Jobs Generated by Surrey Activity
- Over **90%** of total revenue generated by the 6 companies covered in the report comes from farmed salmon
- B.C. salmon farmers purchased about **\$250 million** in goods and services from more than 40 businesses operating within the City of Surrey (2019)
Data provided by RIAS Inc.

Surrey's integrated Salmon Farming Eco-system



MOWI[®]

Dean Dobrinsky, Mowi Canada West



Ravi Jouhal, SureCold Refrigeration

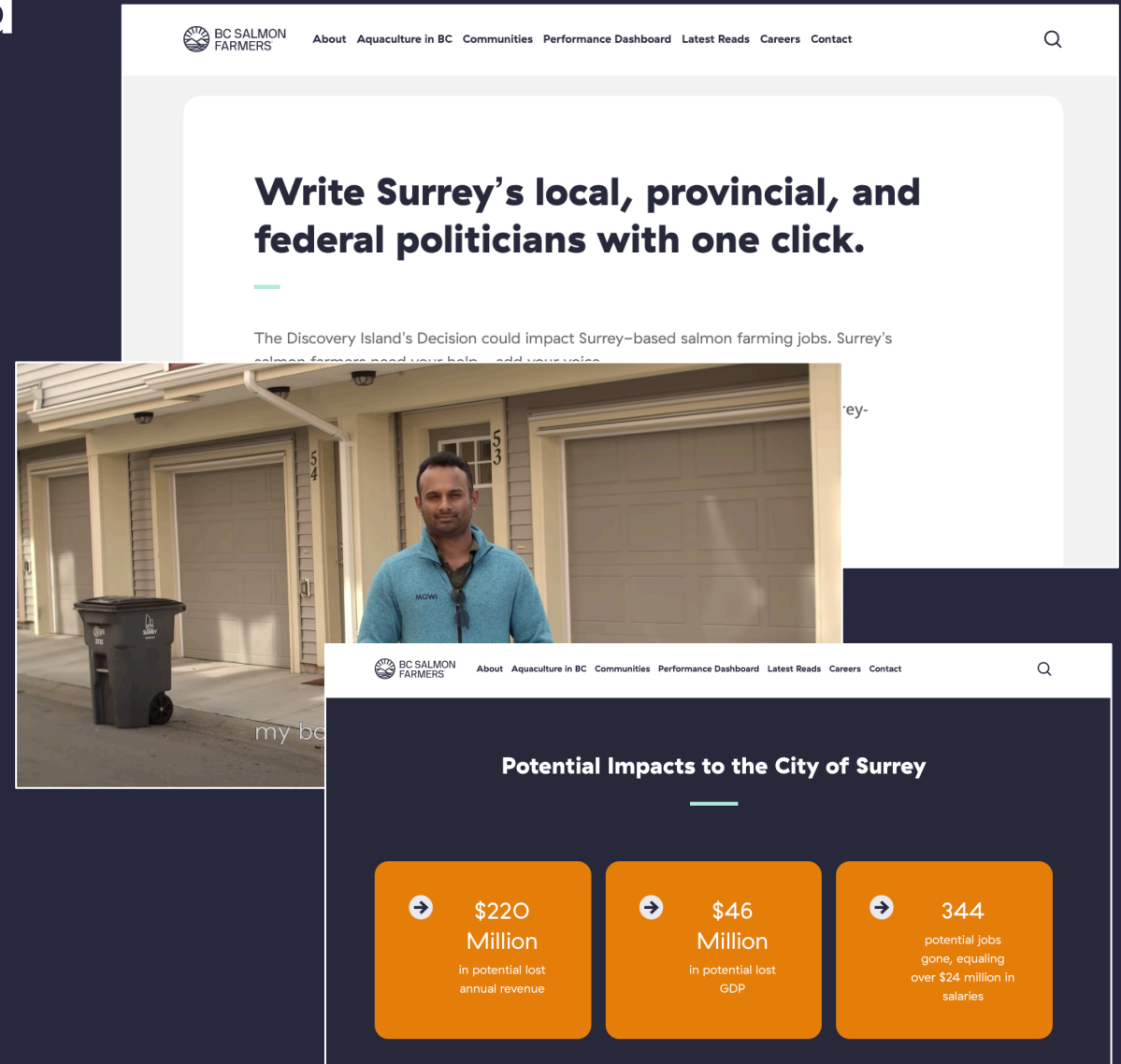


Josh Plamondon, Aquapak

Learn more and get involved

- Read the report
- Watch and meet some of the people and businesses in Surrey
- Learn how you can get involved (write or call)

<https://bcsalmonfarmers.ca/surrey/>



The screenshot displays the BC Salmon Farmers website. The top navigation bar includes the logo and links for About, Aquaculture in BC, Communities, Performance Dashboard, Latest Reads, Careers, and Contact. The main content area features a prominent heading: "Write Surrey's local, provincial, and federal politicians with one click." Below this, a sub-heading reads: "The Discovery Island's Decision could impact Surrey-based salmon farming jobs. Surrey's salmon farmers need your help - add your voice." A video thumbnail shows a man in a blue jacket standing in front of a residential building. The bottom section, titled "Potential Impacts to the City of Surrey", lists three key statistics in orange boxes:

Metric	Value	Description
Potential lost annual revenue	\$220 Million	in potential lost annual revenue
Potential lost GDP	\$46 Million	in potential lost GDP
Potential jobs gone	344	potential jobs gone, equaling over \$24 million in salaries

Ask to Government

BC's salmon farming community is calling on the federal government to reconsider its Discovery Islands farming decision. There is a more responsible path forward for British Columbia's coastal communities.

Time



Let's allow everyone more time and opportunity to develop ideas to minimize the serious impacts of this decision.

Table



Let's bring everyone together at a table as part of an inclusive and transparent process, where we can talk about the future and create unity in our communities.

Transfer



Let's allow the transfer of millions of juvenile salmon to ocean sites so that they can complete their lifecycle.

Let's talk! Q&A

