

ECASA WP 3

Annotated sheet for indicators related to the impact of the environment on aquaculture

1- Name of indicator

POLLUTION

Distance from sources of pollution

e.g. distance from waste discharge points (2km)

distance from harbours

distance from rivers

distance from major maritime routes

2- Related source of pressure

Pollution

3- List of data / parameters required for computation.

4- Description of scientific meaning, references

Pollution is by far considered the most significant risk for aquaculture, as it is known from the literature that in cases of pollution incidents (particularly oil spills, in Scotland, Spain and Greece) the result was total destruction of the farmed capital. Both land based sources of pollution and maritime operations may contribute to pollution problems as well as to other less well identified issues that may have negative effects on aquaculture such as the introduction of alien species through ballast water. Thus, it is in the benefit of aquaculture to avoid sites which are in the vicinity of the activities described under this indicator. The distance between an aquaculture farm and one of those sources of pollution can be used as an estimation of the environmental effect that will be imposed on the farm if the specific site is to be selected.