

Salmones Camanchaca works in storm-impacted seawater site in Chaitén and does not observe fish escape

Chaitén, Friday, 22 May 2020.- Salmones Camanchaca has worked intensively these last days on the repair of the Islotes seawater center, one of which cage modules was damaged as a result of unusual weather conditions in Chaitén last Monday, May 18, as reported by the Company that same day.

The Company implemented a plan that prevents material fish escape from the affected cages, preserves their health condition and allows to continue with the normal growing process as soon as possible. The plans also include removal of any mortalities and removal of any waste of physical materials that may have occurred.

The affected module contains 880 thousand fish of 2.8 kg average, divided into 12 cages. The Company reported that we found no breakage of nets, so it is presumed there are not possibilities of substantial escapes. In any case and preventively, the Company activated the contingency plan for escapes, which includes among other measures using two vessels in the area (Antares and Antares II), which to this date have captured a total of 186 fish.

The Company declared unusable the affected module and has already dispatched a new module that should be fully operational in 3 to 4 more weeks. Both the biomass and assets are insured and the insurers have already been informed. To care for the fish in the affected cages meantime, they will be moved to the module that was not affected, an operation that will end within 5 to 6 days from Saturday 23 May. All fish movements are limited to within the aquaculture concession and under strict safety measures.

Finally, the Company reported that to date has been able to observe a mortality of approximately 10% of the affected cages, that is approximately 85 thousand fish.

The Islotes center is Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) and Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP) certified, both certifying the use of sustainable practices in salmon farming.