



AQUACULTURE IN IDAHO

Economic Impact on Idaho

Ranks 12TH in the U.S. for Annual Aquaculture Sales:

\$44.7M

As demand for seafood continues to increase, aquaculture, or farming in the water, is an environmentally responsible and especially efficient method of protein production and an option we must consider to complement our sustainably managed wild fisheries.

What Types of Fish?

Trout is the #1 fish that is raised in Idaho. Idaho produces about 70% of domestic trout in the nation.

The Most Sustainable Protein

The aquaculture industry utilizes science-based practices to produce farm-raised seafood in the most efficient way possible, which helps protect and preserve our natural resources in a changing climate. Finfish aquaculture is the most sustainable and efficient method of animal protein production. Further, technological advancements in feed production, using soy and microalgae oil, have led to the development of new plant-based feed solutions. Other forms of aquaculture like shellfish and seaweed farming require no feed inputs and act as filters to clean the ocean environment.

Idaho Aquaculture Businesses

Idaho's Magic Valley has the largest volume of high-quality spring water in the world from the Rocky Mountains. The abundant cold springs and warm, geothermal, artesian water are perfect for fish farming. The grow-out farms uniquely located along the Snake River in the Magic Valley enable sustainable fresh fish just days after harvest. Local aquaculture also means local jobs and support of the community. Two outstanding state businesses are:

- [Riverence](#)
- [Rangen](#)

How Does Aquaculture Address Food Security?

Food security and food safety start locally. U.S. aquaculture producers must adhere to strict environmental and product safety rules and regulations, so that Idaho residents can be certain that the fish they're eating is safe. Up to 85% of the seafood consumed in the U.S. is imported, with 50% of that seafood coming from farms, so, why not grow our own local food?



Idaho's Snake River

RESOURCES

- [University of Idaho](#)
- [Idaho DEQ](#)