

# Is This Fukushima? Pacific Herring in Canada Bleeding Eyeballs, Fins, Tails. Government Ignoring Problem

By [Global Research News](#)

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Region: [Canada](#)  
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[The Globe and Mail](#), Aug 13, 2013 (*Emphasis Added*): Independent fisheries scientist [Alexandra Morton](#) is raising concerns about a disease she says is spreading through Pacific herring **causing fish to hemorrhage**. [...] “Two days ago I did a beach seine on Malcolm Island [near Port McNeill on northern Vancouver Island] and I got approximately 100 of these little herring and they were **not only bleeding from their fins, but their bellies, their chins, their eyeballs**. [...] “It was **100 per cent ... I couldn’t find any that weren’t bleeding to some degree**. And they were **schooling with young sockeye [salmon]**”

[Sun News](#), Aug 12, 2013: [Morton] dragged up several hundred of the fish this past weekend and found the apparent infection had spread – instead of their usual silver colour the fish had eyes, tails, underbellies, gills and faces **plastered with the sickly red colour**. “I have **never seen fish that looked this bad**,” [...] In June, the affected fish were only found in eastern Johnstone Strait, but have since spread to Alert Bay and Sointula, she said.

[Canada.com](#), Aug 16, 2013: Morton [...] pulled up a net of about 100 herring near Sointula and found they were all bleeding. “It was pretty **shocking** to see,” said Morton [...] **Herring school with small sockeye salmon** and are also eaten by chinook and coho.

## **‘Response’ from Canadian Government**

[Vancouver 24 hrs](#), Aug 11, 2013: [Morton] says Fisheries and Oceans Canada [FOC] is **ignoring the problem**. [...] According to emails from FOC, the federal authority had asked the marine biologist to send in 20 to 30 herring in **September 2011**, saying that would be “more than sufficient for the lab to look for clinical signs of disease and provide sufficient diagnostics.” She did, and **hasn’t heard back since**. [...] **FOC officials did not respond to a request for comment** by the 24 hours presstime.

[Canada.com](#), Aug 16, 2013: Fisheries and Oceans Canada is **trying** to confirm reports from an independent biologist that herring around northern Vancouver Island have a disease that is causing bleeding from their gills, bellies and eyeballs. [...] Arlene Tompkins of DFO’s [Department of Fisheries and Oceans] salmon assessment section said staff in the Port Hardy area **have not found bleeding herring**. “**We are trying to retrieve samples**, but [Monday] we were **not successful because of heavy fog**,” she said. “**We haven’t had any other reports of fish kills or die-offs** [see salmon report below].” Tompkins has seen photographs provided by Morton [...] 

From earlier today: [Unprecedented: Sockeye salmon at dire historic low on Canada's Pacific coast — "We think something happened in the ocean" — "The elders have never seen anything like this at all" — Alaska and Russia also affected \(MAP\)](#)

UPDATE: [Canadian official publicly claims 'no concern' over new Fukushima leak info... Yet privately requested tests on salmon, due to "great public concern about potential radiation contamination in these fish"](#)

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