

# Sustainability Assessment

SEA PORT®

## FARMED STRIPED BASS

Sea Port imports Striped Bass (*Morone saxatilis*) from Taiwan. Striped Bass farming can have significant environmental impacts. Striped Bass are also relatively inefficient feeders and use high amounts of fishmeal, derived from wild fish stocks, in their feed. Overuse of groundwater as a water source for aquaculture ponds in Taiwan is a serious concern, where it is known to contribute to land subsidence (lowering of the surface of the land). Sea Port primarily sources hybrid Striped Bass which are functionally sterile and pose little threat to becoming established in the wild as non-native species. Farmed hybrid Striped Bass have demonstrated better feed conversion ratios than other farmed non-hybrid bass.

## GO BLUE! SEAFOOD SUSTAINABILITY SPECTRUM FARMED STRIPED BASS



Taiwan

Catch Our Wave® to Sustainability

### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT LEVEL: MODERATELY HIGH

Striped Bass farming uses relatively large amounts of wild fish in feed; and aquaculture ponds in Taiwan may contribute to land subsidence by using groundwater.

### SUSTAINABILITY IMPROVEMENTS NEEDED

Developing suitable substitutes for fishmeal in bass feed and using only feeds specifically formulated for bass will help reduce use of wild fish stocks. More information is needed about Striped Bass farming in Taiwan to better evaluate the environmental impacts of the industry.

### ACTIONS THAT SEA PORT IS UNDERTAKING

Sea Port primarily sources Hybrid Striped Bass from Taiwan which is functionally sterile and therefore cannot reproduce in the wild. This helps reduce the negative environmental impacts that may be caused by escaped fish. Sea Port believes that farmed Striped Bass relieves fishing pressure on the remaining wild Striped Bass stocks thereby helping to sustain and protect them. Sea Port also believes that, in aggregate, choosing from a diverse variety of seafood is better for sustaining the world's seafood resources and Striped Bass should be a part of this variety.

We created the sustainability assessments for each of our seafood items in order to reveal the existing and potential environmental impacts and risks that are associated with producing them for human consumption. This allowed us to establish the starting position for each of our seafood items along our progressive Go Blue Seafood Sustainability Spectrum. These assessments are only a single snapshot in time and because of this, we will continue to assess and update the critical sustainability needs associated with our supply sources and issue updates to the Go Blue Seafood Sustainability Spectrum as needed. There is a growing global awareness for the need to assure the sustainability of farmed and wild caught seafood and because of this; all around the world positive changes are rapidly occurring at all levels of the seafood supply chain. We will continue to spread this growing awareness and work with our many industry partners to improve the sustainability of all seafood, which we believe is the ideal protein of choice to feed an ever growing world population. Our Go Blue Seafood Sustainability Spectrum serves as our compass and yardstick as we strive to move all our products forward to becoming more sustainable. Please join us in this committed quest and Catch Our Wave® to sustainability by choosing a diverse variety of responsibly produced seafood as part of your diet.

