

In the wake of the publication of the Hites, *et al.*, study in the January 9 issue of the journal *Science*, the press showed a renewed interest in the issue of PCBs in salmon and their potential health effects. Some of the initial “news” stories sported alarming headlines, based on the study authors’ conclusions, and little else. But in the days and weeks that followed, many writers and editors looked deeper, running stories like those presented here, which highlight the known health benefits of eating salmon, the questionable science and agenda of the study’s authors and the opinions of medical and public health professionals who vehemently disagree with the conclusions of the study’s authors. As they have been queried by the media, the people in medicine and public health who agree with the authors’ conclusions are found to be few and rarely independent of the environmental groups who supported the study financially.

Some of the recent analysis of this topic in the mainstream press is presented here. They include statements by the foremost experts in medicine and public health that point to flaws in the study and its conclusions that these independent experts view as, in fact, harmful to not just salmon farming, but to public health.