

White House lifts political block on GE salmon

The Food and Drug Administration today released an electronic version of its Environmental Assessment for a genetically modified (GM) salmon developed by [AquaBounty Technologies](#) of [Massachusetts](#)—effectively giving its preliminary seal of approval on the first transgenic animal to be considered for federal approval.

According to sources within FDA, the EA had been approved by all the relevant agencies on April 19, 2012, but had been blocked for release on orders from inside the executive branch—which has raised both legal and ethical issues of political interference with science and the independent work of federal agencies.

The decision by the White House to rescind its order to block the FDA from releasing the EA came Wednesday within hours after the publication of an [investigative report by the Genetic Literacy Project \(GLP\)](#) last Wednesday.

“There was no place for the White House to hide anymore,” said one FDA insider.

View the original article here: [White House Reverses Itself, Lifts Political Block on FDA Approval of GM Salmon](#)