From: Nicholson j

To: <u>Dennehy, Casey (ECY)</u>

Subject: Public comment on state guidance for commercial marine net pen aquaculture

Date: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 12:54:55 PM

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Dear Ms. Dennehy, I write to you today as a concerned resident of the Pacific Northwest. I recognize that Ecology is seeking public comment on its draft document entitled "Guidance for Marine Net Pen Aquaculture in Washington State." While Ecology's efforts to regulate, monitor, and mitigate for the impacts of net pen aquaculture in Puget Sound are certainly appreciated, I feel that it is inappropriate to still be entertaining the idea of continued open water fish farming operations in the region. Open water fish farming has proven to be bad for similar ecological areas to the north of us in Canadian waters. From reduced steelhead runs to the algae bloom from the feed, the money and tax revenue is simply not worth the risk.

-J Nicholson

Sent from my iPhone