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Given that diseases both currently known to science and unknown by existing science exist and are amplified in Cooke's open net pens globally, it is not responsible management of native threatened populations of Washington salmonids and other fish to continue to expand and allow open net pen salmonid production in Washington. I visit and fish this state regularly as a tourist but will refuse to support any administration that allows open net pen production to continue to expand when zero effluent land based production models exist and are in profitable production (eg Sustainable Blue in NS Canada, Superior Fresh in Wisconsin, etc). Even entertaining this application is irresponsible and requires managers to ignore the reams of peer reviewed literature condemning this production model. I can go on about ad hoc testing and culls AFTER the pens stream effluent containing the FEW pathogens that the state requires monitoring for, a lack of antimicrobial resistance testing, antibiotic abuse and a lack of limits on sea lice etc etc but you will ignore it, I am sure. This statement says it all: "WDFW regulates ecological impacts of marine aquaculture to prevent disease and deleterious effects to wild fish stocks. " Exactly how does one PREVENT disease outbreaks in a net pen?? What a ridiculous statement not based in reality and fact. Do not allow these permits to use steelhead or any other finfish. This production model is out of control, virtually unregulated, and ecocidal. Externalizing costs onto the environment to generate higher profits and lower capital expenditures is not proper management of a PUBLIC resource. When will bureaucrats learn this? If an less polluting and ecocidal production model exists (and it does!)..force Cooke to use it or tell them to go home.