

# Mary and Brian Jokela

Please include these comments regarding Cooke Aquaculture NPDES permit applications to raise steelhead:

We urge the Department of Ecology to especially consider that new species generate unique concerns for aquatic health and sustainability. And that switching species does not reduce the rampant daily pollution and water quality risks posed by open water net pen aquaculture.

Further, Ecology should reconsider all water quality risks associated with this industry including escape prevention and response plans and not limit the scope of its review to risks associated with a change of species.

Finally, we urge Ecology to deny issuing NPDES permits until Cooke has initiated and received agreement from all local, state, federal, and tribal governments.