

John Conley

No net pens, please! These are destructive to our native fish and are sources of tremendous pollution. It's like having a small city --- without a wastewater plant --- tethered just offshore. I am sorry that the Jamestown S'kallam tribe --- generally very good environmental stewards when it comes to their aquaculture projects (geoducks, etc.) have gotten onboard with this project. It seems apparent that Cooke thinks involving Native Americans in this project will make it look better.

There is no guarantee or proven science that says the farmed steelhead will not compete with, or breed with, our native --- endangered --- steelhead.

I support aquaculture, but projects like this one should be put onshore, where the impact on native fish species is minimized, and the waste produced does not further imperil our oceans, which are near the tipping point (to anyone really paying attention).

No net pens. Please do not authorize this misguided project. Raise the fish on land. Keep the farmed fish separate from our natives, and contain the waste and treat it.

Thank you,

John Conley
Port Townsend