

# Jim Thomson

Aquaculture adds what I assume is a potentially unhealthy load of excrement and uneaten feed to the ecosystem. This system evolved without this kind of extra load to mess with the biological balance in the areas around the fish pens. In addition, the load of pathogens ("germs"), and toxins will exceed the natural levels. The effects of a wide range of human interventions on our ecosystems has had many irreversible consequences, e.g. logging and dams, It is not often that the opportunity to eliminate a threat to our salmon populations is available. Please deny the various permits for fish pens in Washington State waters.