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Ecology should not authorize Cooke's modified NPDES permits until the ongoing lawsuit challenging the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) environmental review process and determination is complete (for there is substantial new information that was not considered during the SEPA process). Ensuring compliance of rules set by NPDES permits is crucial.

Switching species does NOT reduce the rampant daily pollution and water quality risks posed by open water net pen aquaculture. Ecology should reconsider all water quality risks associated with this industry and not limit the scope of their review to risks associated with a change of species.