

Dylan Tomine

To the Dept of Ecology--

I am writing to ask you to reject Cooke Aquaculture's cynical permit application to switch from Atlantic salmon to "steelhead" in their Puget Sound net pens. This action would clearly go against the will of the people of Washington state, while continuing the same problems currently at issue with the existing net pen operations. Specifically, the pollution of public waters with biological waste, chemicals and parasites. In this state, we are spending millions of dollars per year to protect wild salmon and southern resident killer whales, so it's confusing to me that we'd even consider an action that profits a multi-national corporation like Cooke, while all the scientific evidence demonstrates that the net-pen operations are harmful to both salmon and orca recovery. The waters of Puget Sound and its wild salmon and orcas are public property; for one company to be allowed to damage these resources for profit is unacceptable. Please reject this application. Thank you for your time and consideration. --Dylan Tomine