

Troutlodge Inc

The President's recent recognition and actions underline that farmed seafood is massively important to the nation's health and economy. His mandate requires the Army Corps of Engineers to identify areas in which marine aquaculture can be developed and undoubtedly the Puget Sound will be considered under this.

The current application recognizes the popular concerns around Atlantic salmon growing in the area by applying for a native species, specifically sterile animals, whose interactions with wild populations would be limited- even under escape conditions.

The responsible raising of these fish within modern containment should be a welcome addition to our local economy, supporting employment in rural areas.

I think that Washington state should lead the way in developing responsible finfish aquaculture by approving this permit.