

Matthew Steinwurtzel

I strongly disapprove of the decision to allow Cooke Aquaculture to farm native steelhead in Puget Sound. For one, Cooke has proven that their track record in aquaculture does not support a healthy Puget Sound ecosystem, and they have proven that they cannot adequately and safely manage their facilities.

Secondly, allowing Cooke Aquaculture to farm native steelhead works against a regional approach to restore our native populations of steelhead and other anadromous fish. With recent years of poor returns, this decision is incredibly concerning given how it will affect our wild fish.

I implore you to reject Cooke's permit and to focus on regional ecosystem-based solutions that will allow for the restoration of our prized fisheries.

Thank you for your time.