

## Susan Alotrico

I do not support this project and neither can they prove it will be safe. Farmed invasive species are already in the Salish seas from failed net pens. How wild species will survive interacting with farmed species is not known and I don't believe it serves the native fish. I stand with the Wild Fish Conservancy, Center for Biological Diversity, Center for Food Safety and Friends of the Earth that argue allowing Cooke Aquaculture to raise steelhead in floating net pens would jeopardize the region's wild steelhead, salmon and endangered Southern Resident orca whales. I agree that "Puget Sound steelhead, including those from the Skagit River, have been listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act since 2007." Furthermore, Cooke has a bad track record, "In August 2017, one of the company's farms near Cypress Island in Skagit County collapsed under the weight of debris the company neglected to clean off, and the majority of the 300,000 fish in that net pen escaped." ...these quotes take from The Columbian article:  
<https://www.columbian.com/news/2020/feb/13/groups-sue-washington-wildlife-agency-over-steelhead-farms/>

I vote NO!