

Caroline Armon

Please do not permit Cooke Aquaculture Pacific to raise steelhead or any fish in Washington State waters, based on their previous neglect, deception, WDFW statement "After scientific review, WDFW determined that raising steelhead trout in the existing net-pen facilities would carry similar or less risk than raising Atlantic salmon.", and that these nets are in our public waters.

Washington State Department of Ecology are caretakers of our public waters and lands, our representatives, and the majority of we public do not support our waters being used and decimated for corporate profit.

I support, WSDE please also support Wild Fish Conservancy seeking to restore the sites to their natural states and to restore full access for public use. As Executive Director Kurt Beardslee said "Leasing these lands for the purpose of restoring Puget Sound is consistent with the will of the public and will provide broad cultural, social, and economic benefits for all citizens while restoring direct access to 130 acres of public waters for the first time in over thirty years. Buying the rights to the sites and removing the pens would, cost-to-benefit-wise, be one of the best restoration projects in 30 years."

Sincerely,
Caroline Armon
Marine Ecology Educator
Field Research