

Annie McIntyre

Please do not allow Cooke Aquaculture Pacific to lease any further areas in the Salish Sea. Cooke Aquaculture Pacific has proven themselves to be horrible stewards of their own fish pens and the environment surrounding those pens in the leases that they have held in the past. In 2017 a ten-cage net-pen rearing 305,000 salmon off Cypress Island in northern Puget Sound collapsed. They lied about the reason it happened. They seem to scoff at regulations and the laws that govern them. They have consistently had sick fish and have sickened wild fish as well as polluted the sea beds under and around their pens with the fall out of the feed and drugs they have given to their fish. This unnatural habitat fosters disease which can not be contained in their pens. To consider leasing them any areas on the PNW coast, let alone in the Salish Sea would compound the issues and disasters that they have been directly linked with. When examined their fish pens and fish have been environmentally disastrous, and have led directly to the decline of our wild salmon. They do not deserve another chance to pollute and disrupt our fragile ecosystem. Please say no to Cooke Aquaculture Pacific.