

Subject: August 25th Update on Cypress Island Site 2 Stabilization/Fish Recovery/Deconstruction

Date: August 25, 2017

Time: 8:30 AM

To: WDNR, WDOE, WDFW, NWIFC and NOAA

From: Cooke Aquaculture Pacific

Thursday August 24th past actions and Friday August 25th plans

Throughout the day on Thursday, crews continued to work on stabilizing the pen structure with additional chains, lines and mooring points. The work on the moorings was temporarily halted as a boat approached close to the work vessels and damaged cage structure and then sent a diver into the water to swim underneath the pens. The Site 2 facility is in an emergency situation and there are extreme safety issues regarding divers and boats approaching too close to the net pens. Diving is particularly hazardous and disrupts ongoing emergency response measures, creating hazards for emergency workers, divers working to stabilize the site, and increases the risk of additional fish escapes as a result of disruption of the work at the site.

An ROV was deployed into two of the pens by staff. They observed a large number of fish still remaining in these pens. A plan was set up to attempt recovery of these fish as the cages become further stabilized. Extensions have been added to the suction end of the fish pump which will allow it to reach down to the bottom of the pens and remove remaining fish. Earlier in the week, before the cage system became so extensively damaged, a similar plan was executed and the harvest vessel was able to pump 5,166 fish out some of the accessible pens. These fish were transported by a tender vessel to a fish processing plant for offloading.

Yesterday there were significantly more recreational vessels fishing along the shorelines of Deepwater Bay (estimates are over 100). Additionally, a group of employees continued beach seining along the shorelines and were successful at capturing and removing 136 escaped fish from the water. Efforts to seine escaped fish from the shore will continue today.

Global Salvage and Diving is arriving Friday morning and will start performing dive operations on the cages. The crane barge is scheduled to arrive Saturday morning. The crane barge will be used to remove broken walkways and materials that will allow further access to the fish containment pens. The containment nets will then be lifted to the surface further to facilitate the fish removal process. The tidal exchanges are beginning to slow down now which is creating larger work windows and should help accelerate the progress of fish recovery.