

SITUATION UPDATE – COOKE AQUACULTURE

Tuesday, Aug. 30 – 8:30pm

On Wednesday, Cooke Aquaculture Pacific, working with a salvage crew, removed 600 Atlantic salmon from the damaged Cypress Island farm site #2. The total number of fish recovered from the site is now 142,176.

As individual pens are cleared of fish, the crew has been able to safely remove four of the farm's nets. Three nets were removed Tuesday, one net was removed Wednesday and another net has been fully secured. When tides allow, a final dive inspection will be conducted and that net will then be removed.

Also on Wednesday, a small section of the cage structure – a walkway – was removed from the water. Crews were able to secure additional sections of the farm site to create a stable work area that will allow the workers to remove additional cage sections.

Water quality samples are being conducted daily and show no adverse effects.

Tribal, commercial and recreational fishers continue to recapture fish that escaped the enclosure and Washington's Department of Fish and Wildlife is collecting data on those catches.

Catches can be reported online here: http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/salmon/atlantic_catch_map.php