

## **SITUATION UPDATE – COOKE AQUACULTURE**

**Tuesday, Sept. 5**

On Tuesday, Sept. 5, Cooke Aquaculture crews continued to deconstruct its Cypress Island Site 2.

The company's final count on fish removed from the damaged structure is 145,851. This includes 5,166 fish that were harvested before the major damage occurred on Aug. 20. In addition, Cooke crews captured 388 escaped Atlantic salmon using beach seines under an emergency permit issued by the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

All fish recovered from the site have been transported by a local recycling company and will be processed for biofuel as well as fertilizer and soil enhancers used by local farmers.

On Tuesday, crews had most of the site's outriggers removed and staged for transport. In the afternoon, workers began removing a safety bridle and anchor from the farm and were beginning the process of removing a predator net – one large net that encircled the entire farm. A barge will remain on site overnight Tuesday and will resume offloading the farm equipment on Wednesday.

The company is working to have all gear cleared from the site on or [before Sept. 24](#) – as required by the Washington Department of Natural Resources. Strong tides this week may slow progress but conditions look favorable for the salvage work next week.

Visibility around the site has been good and water quality sampling shows no irregularities compared with ambient samples taken up and downstream from the site. These results are shared daily with the appropriate government agencies.

Tribal, commercial, and recreational fishers who recapture Atlantic salmon from the site are asked to voluntarily report catch numbers and locations online here: [http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/salmon/atlantic\\_catch\\_map.php](http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/salmon/atlantic_catch_map.php)