

SITUATION UPDATE – COOKE AQUACULTURE

Thursday, Sept. 7

On Thursday, Cooke crews working with a salvage contractor and a waste removal contractor, have loaded the final three stock nets from Cypress Farm Site 2 onto a work barge. Those nets will be inspected by appropriate agencies on board the barge before they are offloaded to waste disposal trucks at Curtis Wharf on Friday morning.

The disposal effort is scheduled to begin at 8 a.m. Friday and it is expected to take about four hours. The nets will be offloaded directly into waste disposal trucks, covered with a roll-top tarp and hauled away for disposal. The companies are coordinating to ensure this work is done safely quickly and efficiently.

At the site of the damaged farm, all of the walkway materials have been removed from the water and staged for inspection and disposal. Crews will continue to work on removing and disposing of the site's predator net next week – likely beginning Tuesday.

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.

Daily 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