



August 21, 2017

Statement on Damage to Cypress Farm #2

- Exceptionally high tides and currents caused damage to a salmon farm that has been in operation near Cypress Island for approximately 30 years.
- It is estimated that several thousand Atlantic salmon escaped following a structural failure of part of the net pen structure on the Cypress Site 2 farm. It appears that many fish are still contained within the nets. It will not be possible to confirm exact numbers of fish losses until harvesting is completed and an inventory of fish in the pens has been conducted.
- Cooke Aquaculture Pacific maintains a detailed fish escape and recapture plan as part of its operations, and has implemented that plan in response to this loss of fish.
- All authorities have been notified of the situation and are receiving regular updates. A full recapture plan is being implemented.
- Our focus is on the safety of our people, securing the farm facilities, and protecting the environment we work within. Farm crews are on site, working to stabilize the farm and to recover as many fish as possible, when conditions permit. The health and safety of our employees continues to be our priority and we will wait for tidal conditions to improve before we send divers into the farm to do a full assessment.
- We are bringing the full weight of our global company's technical knowledge and farming experience to assist the Cooke Aquaculture Pacific team.
- In our first year as owners of the Washington salmon farming operations, Cooke Aquaculture Pacific identified areas for investment to bring the facilities up to Cooke's global standard. As part of that process, we applied for permits to allow us to strengthen and update the Cypress site even before the existing fish were harvested out. We will work with the relevant authorities to make sure we can employ the best knowledge, technology and the expertise of our global experts as we rebuild the farm.
- Cooke has a solid track record of investing in its operations following acquisitions. Examples from Maine, Scotland, Spain and Chile with the purchase of modern farming technologies, feeding systems and support vessels will serve as a model for Cooke's investment in our Washington operations and in our people.