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From: joanne moesswilde <jmoesswilde@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 17, 2020 9:49 PM
To: DEP, Nordic Aqua Farms
Cc: joanne moesswilde; Leslie Mink; morten Moesswilde
Subject: Regarding nordic aqua farms project in Belfast Maine

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Dear DEP

Thank you for reviewing this letter about my concerns regarding the nordic aqua farms (NAF) proposal for Belfast ,Maine.

I oppose the NAF project because it will directly destroy at least 50 acres of valuable habitat and natural environment along the uplands and shore of our Maine Coast in Belfast. There is no question that this project will destroy the valuable carbon sequestering upland forest and crucial habitat for many species of birds and other animals. The 200 ft strip of land along the Little River that NAF claims they will preserve for "recreation" is not adequate habitat for the displaced flora and fauna. This narrow strip also will not maintain the same access to nature that the Little River trail now affords the many people who now go there seeking a connection with nature. Our connection with nature is crucial to our health.

This place where fresh and salt water meet is a valuable, unique and critical habitat for fish and fowl. There is a delicate balance here that nature maintains with tides, eel grass, sea weed, fresh water from the Little River, temperature changes through the seasons and wind. All the inhabitants of this place rely on this balance and will not withstand the constant assault proposed by the NAF project. The constant exchanges of water sucked into the factory, used and contaminated and then flushed out through large pipes will upset the delicate balance that nature provides for the creatures who live here. Also alarming is the the violent and destructive act of laying of these pipes that will dredge up yesteryear's toxins that nature has so patiently covered over time; these toxins will again linger in our waters and damage our already stressed but recovering fisheries. Ask any fisherman , they know these waters better than anyone.

The amount of fresh water required by NAF to maintain this fish factory for 30 years is staggering and not sustainable. In this time when fresh drinking water is scarce all over the world, we need to be careful how we manage this natural resource. As NAF exposes more details of their plan , we are learning that their water needs are greater that originally stated. What gives this corporation the right to take such a large portion of our water????? They are asking to take more than their fair share!

I ask you to think forward. Think of the Maine Coast that you want to leave to your children and grandchildren. Please think beyond the desires of this large corporation whose goal it is to create wealth for their investors by extracting our resources of land, water, wildlife and way-of-life.

I propose that if NAF wants to be in Maine they utilize a brown field site, somewhere inland where it will not scar our delicate coast. I propose that they be required to use a totally closed system and be limited in the amount of water that they are allowed to extract from our ground water supply. I propose that they be required to have an operating plant that is carbon neutral and be limited in their square footage to no more than 200,000 square feet. And, please, be sure to ask the citizens if they want a fish factory in their town.

Thank you,

Joanne Moesswilde, Belfast, Maine 207-323-9995