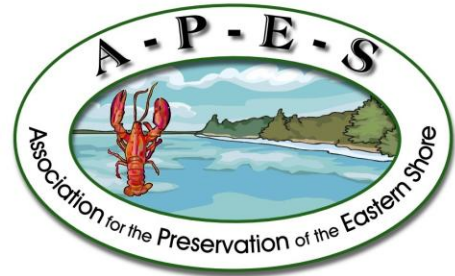


## AN OPEN LETTER TO SCOTLAND



Dear Scottish citizens,

I am writing you from New Scotland – Nova Scotia, where Loch Duart is seeking to have licenses granted on our Eastern Shore to install three eighteen hectare open pen salmon feedlots. Since, we, the citizens along the Eastern Shore have learned of this Scottish company's intentions to contaminate our bays and harbours in a manner similar if not worse to what it is doing in your country we have written thousands of letters to our federal and provincial governments asking them not to grant these permits.

We have formed the Association for the Preservation of the Eastern Shore to inform our citizens of the national and international science that shows how deleterious these farms are to the benthic environment and to wild catch fishery.

The backbone of the Eastern Shore's economy is our wild, pure, lobster fishery. The excrement from open pen salmon feedlots (a Boeing 7478 worth for every cycle of 500,000salmon) and the chemicals that Loch Duart uses to fight disease in Scotland will kill our lobster larvae and drive away our mature lobsters. Loch Duart could ruin our lobster fishery here.

The Nova Scotia Salmon Association has spent many valuable hours and almost \$1M restoring our West River for a return of our wild salmon runs. Open pen salmon feedlots will jeopardize this recovery due to genetic and viral contamination. The Cohen Report released last week in British Columbia has acknowledged these dangers for wild salmon from farmed salmon and called for a moratorium on any new salmon farms near salmon migration routes as well as a possible removal of all salmon farms in these waters within five years.

What is more, the second backbone of our economy here is tourism. Our tourist brand is "pristine and unspoilt nature". Loch Duart wants to set up shop in bays and harbours opposite a family campground business that had 3000-4000 visitors this summer ,not to mention in front of other hotels, B&B's, and sea side homes.

Just off our shores is an archipelago of almost 100 islands, named by Samuel de Champlain The Bay of Isles. Scientists for the Nova Scotia Nature Trust have determined that these beautiful islands are still the way they were since the glacial age. A part of the archipelago is a bird wildlife preserve where many endangered bird species reside along their migration routes. Because the sites where Loch Duart wants to set up are so shallow and the current so minimal, during heavy weather, the excrement underneath the pens will wash up on all of these shores destroying the habitat for such endangered birds as the piping plover. I, for one, kayak regularly amongst these islands, an activity that will be spoiled by open pen salmon feedlots in the area.

We, in Nova Scotia, are aware that one reason why Nick Joy wants to come to our waters could be that Scotland has restricted the areas where fish farming can take place in order to protect its own waters and also because many of the waters that house such feedlots in Scotland are now too contaminated to carry on. We know Loch Duart's Scottish record for escapes and the administration of chemicals is very bad indeed.

We, the citizens of Nova Scotia, beseech you, the citizens of Scotland, to prevail upon your government not to allow Loch Duart to come to Nova Scotia to contaminate our waters. Pollution that severely damages our wild catch fisheries, our tourism industries, and our wild and pristine environment, is not the kind of diplomacy that needs to exist between the New and Old Scotlands.

Yours Truly,

Marika Finlay – de Monchy

President, Association for the Preservation of the Eastern Shore