

## **Group opposed to Eastern Shore salmon farms fishing for support**

[By BRUCE ERSKINE Business Reporter](#)

Three proposed Eastern Shore open-pen salmon farms are raising concerns similar to those expressed recently about aquaculture plans in Shelburne County.

A website called Save the Eastern Shore is alerting local residents about a proposal by Snow Island Salmon Inc. to operate finfish licences in Shoal Bay, Spry Bay and Beaver Harbour, all in Halifax County.

Snow Island is identified on the website as a subsidiary of Scotland's Loch Duart, which operates two open-pen salmon farms in Ship Harbour.

The provincial Fisheries and Aquaculture Department will host an open house and public meeting on the Snow Island proposal at Branch 58 of the Royal Canadian Legion in Sheet Harbour on Feb. 6 from 6 to 9 p.m.

The salmon farm plan includes three 18-hectare sites.

Save The Eastern Shore is urging concerned citizens to write the provincial government to tell it what a big mistake it is to continue the expansion of open-pen salmon farms in Nova Scotia waters.

The group also wants a moratorium on the expansion of finfish farms in the province.

Save the Eastern Shore's concerns mirror those of residents and traditional fisherman in Shelburne County who oppose an application by a subsidiary of Cooke Aquaculture of New Brunswick to build open-pen farms in Jordan Bay, near Shelburne Harbour.

Critics of that plan, undergoing a federal environmental assessment, allege the farms and the potential use of pesticides to control sea lice threaten lucrative natural lobster fisheries.

Robert Taylor, Snow Island's business development manager, members of Save the Eastern Shore and provincial government officials could not be reached for comment on the Eastern Shore proposal.

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