



### **Cooke sending vessels for Newfoundland wildfire relief supplies**

Hermitage, N.L.– August 9, 2022 – Cooke Aquaculture is sending vessels and a dozen crew members from its Hermitage-based salmon farming operations to help supply rural coastal Newfoundland communities as fire fighters battle two massive wildfires near the Bay d'Espoir Highway and Paradise Lake.

A state of emergency was declared in the Grand Falls-Windsor, Bishop's Falls and Connaigre Peninsula areas on Saturday night, and extended to the Botwood area on Sunday.

Cooke is steaming two large vessels 4.5 hrs to the town of Fortune early tomorrow morning to pick up grocery supplies and then deliver them by water back to the cut off communities. The vessels, *Big Dipper* and *Fortune Princess* will deliver up to 75 pallets of food and supplies to local residents.

Cooke supports communities when crisis hit. The New Brunswick family-owned company has worked alongside first responders helping forest fire, flood and ice storm victims in disaster zones in Atlantic Canada and around the world in the areas where the global seafood company operates.

Cooke Aquaculture is coordinating its relief efforts with the Newfoundland and Labrador Provincial Emergency Operations Centre, Hermitage Mayor Steve Crewe, Harbour Breton Deputy Mayor Roy Drake, provincial member of the House of Assembly (MHA) Elvis Loveless and support from other organizations including The Canadian Red Cross.

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