

Bill R.

DOE should grant Cooke Aquaculture the NPDES as well as all other necessary permits on their end required to operate the net pens. We need aquaculture! The state of our oceans and our food supply around the world depend on its sustainability!

The one sided SAVE OUR SALMON and SAVE THE ORCA and LET NATURE BE NATURE speeches that seem, as of late, to almost immediately place blame for these current problems on net pens are far fetched to say the least!

Do people actually believe that net pens are part of the cause of salmon and in turn orca decline? It sure seems that way to me.

REALITY CHECK!

The resident orcas are starving because the native salmon are being and have been over fished, and the climate is changing thus furthering the declining salmon problem!

If we let nature be nature all the salmon would be GONE!!! Most of the salmon these days are hatchery raised anyway (Guess what! That's not natural!!!!)

And the Orcas, well if they're hungry enough they'll eat something else like maybe a seal! There's an overabundance of those! Or any other fish in the sea!! If not, well...We will LET NATURE BE NATURE, and guess what, only the strong and adaptable survive in nature!

This state dumps billions into saving the salmon and the orcas and has it helped at all? NO! The ORCAS ARE STILL STARVING and there are STILL LESS AND LESS NATIVE SALMON returning each year!

Waters are getting warmer and sport and commercial fishing continue to deplete the resources! BUT OH NO! THAT COULDN'T BE THE PROBLEM!

If people really want to help the native salmon population and resident orcas, they'll push for a minimum 5-year moratorium on chinook salmon fishing. For that matter put a moratorium on all salmon fishing and watch the result!

So, here's my POINT! - Unless your peeling bark off a tree for dinner or your afternoon snack is some berries you foraged in a field somewhere, your food was raised on a FARM! And that farm, no matter what is being grown on it, has an impact on the environment! You as a person are having an impact on the environment! EVERYTHING has an impact on the environment!!!!

AQUACULTURE IS SUSTAINABLE, GOOD FOR AND NECESSARY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS!!!