

Janise and Steve Hawes

We own a beach cabin on Guemes Island directly across Bellingham Channel from the Cypress Island fish pens. We have fished for hatchery silver salmon, casting from the beach, every summer for the past 20 years. We have caught escaped Atlantic salmon often. The first time we wondered "What the heck is this?" With the help of a Canadian fish identification poster, we discovered it was an Atlantic salmon. This species has been escaping their pens and invading our waters for a long time. In the days following the pen collapse our coastline was churning with lost fish. It is time to be rid of fish farming pens in WA state waters and reclaim a natural Deepwater Bay off Cypress Island.

Thank you, Janise and Steve Hawes